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Experts explain recent developments in Mideast

By Barry Fishman

The recent electoral victory of Hamas and the upcoming Israeli elections, minus Ariel Sharon, are making for interesting times in the Middle East.

To help make sense of what is going on, a slew of academics has been or soon will be speaking to members of the Ottawa Jewish community about the recent events and what the future holds.

The day after the Hamas victory, Dr. Yossi Olmert, brother of Israeli Acting Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, was in Ottawa as part of a Canada Israel Committee (CIC) speaking tour across Canada.

On February 1, the Ottawa Chapter of Canadian Friends of Peace Now featured Professor Mira Sucharov of Carleton University (see story page 4).

As of press time, former

three-term Meretz (Democratic Israel party) MK and founding member of the Israeli feminist movement, Professor Naomi Chazan, was scheduled to speak February 14. A full report will appear in the next edition of the *Bulletin*.

On Tuesday, March 7, the CIC will be bringing to Ottawa academics Dr. Asher Arian, professor of political science at the University of Haifa, and Dr.

Tamar Hermann, director of the Tami Steinmetz Center for Peace Research at Tel Aviv University. Both professors specialize in public opinion trends.

The *Bulletin* spoke with Olmert during his visit to Ottawa and by phone to Dr. Arian and Dr. Hermann in Israel.

Like almost everyone else, including Hamas, Olmert was

(Continued on page 7)



Dr. Yossi Olmert



Shabbat Candle Workshop

Hillel Academy students proudly display their decorated Shabbat candle holders. The *Shabbat Candle Workshop* provides students with new insights into the significance of the Shabbat Candles ritual and its role in the Jewish home.

During the 45-minute workshop, the children gained an appreciation for this beautiful mitzvah as Rabbi M. Blum of the Ottawa Torah Center guided them through a candle-making activity.

"Our philosophy," Rabbi Blum explains, "is to provide a hands-on Jewish experience. If we want to ensure that our children continue on our heritage, the classroom will just not suffice. The only way we can properly have an impact on them is by engaging them and getting them to participate actively in the process."

UN Holocaust Remembrance Day commemorated

By Diane Koven

It isn't often that United Nations declarations are warmly embraced by the Jewish community, but the acceptance of Israel's recent motion to observe an annual United Nations International Day of Holocaust Remembrance was a welcome exception.

It was not that long ago, said Rabbi Reuven Bulka at a luncheon reception hosted by the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), "if Israel had proposed Thursday to be declared Thursday, it would not have been passed at the UN."

The reception, held at CJC's Ottawa offices, was an occasion to mark the commemoration of the first annual UN International Day of Holocaust Remembrance together with representatives of three of the four countries that initially co-

sponsored Israel's motion.

On that day, the fourth co-sponsor, Australia, was celebrating its National Day.

The government of Canada was represented by Wendy Druker, deputy head, UN Desk, Foreign Affairs Canada. Counsellor Sergey Petrov, Embassy of Russia, and Lisa Wishman, second secretary and vice consul, Embassy of the United States, were present as well.

Rabbi Bulka noted with irony that he would be leaving the gathering to address a Kiwanis group on the topic. "Is Anti-Semitism Making a Comeback?"

Emphasizing how timely the passing of the UN Resolution was, Rabbi Bulka said, "It comes also at a time when we are acutely aware of some of the horrible, vitriolic state-

(Continued on page 2)

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Holocaust Remembrance

(Continued from page 1)
ments coming out of Iran and its president."

The rabbi expressed his hope that the UN would carry out its mandate to require member nations to include Holocaust teaching in their educational institutions.

Eric Vernon, director of government relations for CJC, welcomed Piotr Ogrodzinski, ambassador of Poland to Canada, Sabine Sparwasser, chargé d'affaires of the Embassy of Germany, and Alan Baker, ambassador of Israel to Canada.

Remarking that this type of resolution should have been passed 60 years ago, Ambassador Baker, who had "been involved indirectly in

drafting the resolution that was adopted and the many drafts that were proposed and had to be changed, and in negotiations with other countries that do not recognize the State of Israel ... " nonetheless expressed satisfaction that the UN had, in fact, passed the resolution.

"This being said, within a month or two months of this being adopted by the GA [General Assembly of the United Nations], we find ourselves in the situation that the newly elected president of Iran ... claiming that the Holocaust was a myth and convening an international conference on Holocaust denial," said Baker.

"The question is whether

or not the international community is prepared to go a step further and to do something practical, whether in the UN or the G-8 or in other international contexts to act responsibly, in a serious and firm way, against this type of incitement to genocide."

Representatives of Austria and Romania also attended the commemoration, as did David Pratt of the Canadian Red Cross Society and General Edward Fitch, Canadian Forces.

Holocaust survivors David Shentow and Ellie Bollegraaf attended the luncheon, as well as Rubin Friedman, who is the child of survivors.



(From left to right) Rubin Friedman (child of survivors), Ellie Bollegraaf (hidden child survivor), David Shentow (survivor) and Israeli Ambassador to Canada Alan Baker at the CJC luncheon commemorating the UN International Day of Holocaust Remembrance. (OJB photo: Barry Fishman)

Lord Carey 'ashamed to be an Anglican'

By George Conger

The former archbishop of Canterbury, George Carey, told *The Jerusalem Post* he was "ashamed to be an Anglican" following the vote by the Church of England to disinvest from companies whose products are used by the Israeli government in the territories.

The February 6 divestment vote, which was backed by current Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams, was "a most regrettable and one-sided statement," Lord Carey said, and one that "ignores the trauma of ordinary Jewish people" in Israel subjected to terrorist attacks.

Lord Carey joined Jewish

leaders protesting the vote by the General Synod, the church's legislature, to adopt a "morally responsible investment in the Palestinian occupied territories and, in particular, to disinvest from companies profiting from the illegal occupation, such as Caterpillar Inc., until they change their policies."

The church's call to pressure Caterpillar and other multi-nationals to withdraw from the territories was a "one-eyed" response that "only rebukes one side," Lord Carey said, and displayed the church's "propensity to reduce complex issues to black and white."

Jon Benjamin, the chief executive officer of the Board of Deputies of British Jews,

branded the synod vote "simplistic" and "unbalanced."

"What it shows is that the thinking of people who support these resolutions is not very sophisticated," he said. There were sound reasons why the Israeli government had adopted its security policies, but these were never "aired or discussed" by the synod, Benjamin said.

During the one-hour debate that preceded the vote, a letter from the Anglican bishop in Jerusalem, the Rt. Rev. Riah Abu al-Assal, condemning the Israeli government's use of Caterpillar tractors to demolish Palestinian homes was read to the synod.

The bishop of Chelmsford, the Rt. Rev. John Gladwin, said he held Israel responsible for the worsening plight of Palestinian Christians, telling the synod,

"Caterpillar may be a company being used for dreadful purposes across the world, but the problem is not Caterpillar. The problem is the situation in the Middle East and the government of Israel."

The chairman of the Council of Christians and Jews, the Rt. Rev. Christopher Herbert, bishop of St. Albans, disagreed and objected to the divestment call, telling the synod it was "unbalanced" and failed to reflect the complexity of the situation.

The synod adopted the motion by a show of hands, with Archbishop Williams voting in favour, and the archbishop of York, John Sentamu, abstaining.

Dr. Irene Lancaster, of the Center for Jewish Studies at Manchester University, said the vote marked "a very

black day for Anglican-Jewish relations."

"The Jewish community will have to reconsider their attitude to interfaith work with the Anglican community," she said, adding, "The writing is on the wall for the Jews of Great Britain, 350 years after they settled here."

The symbolism of this vote was that "Israel will be criticized regardless of what happens," Benjamin said. In the mind of the Church of England, "nothing Israel ever will do will be right, while nothing the Palestinians will do will ever be wrong," he charged.

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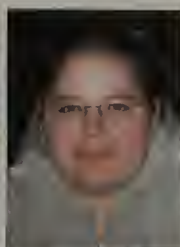
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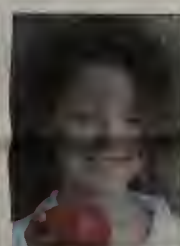
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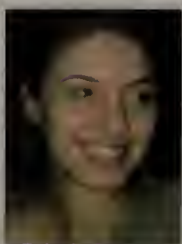
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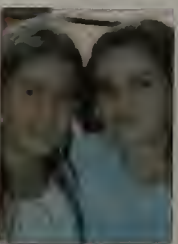
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Hamas victory complicates Mideast peace process

By Ariel Vered

On February 1, Dr. Mira Sucharov, associate professor of political science at Carleton University and author of *The International Self: Psychoanalysis and the Search for Israeli-Palestinian Peace*, addressed an audience of 60 people at the SJCC on the subject of the Palestinian and Israeli elections and the implications for the peace process.

The purpose of the lecture, organized by the Ottawa chapter of Peace Now and the SJCC, was to provide a fresh view on the fluid nature of Israeli and Palestinian politics. The theme of Sucharov's lecture was the search for identity, a common issue in both the Israeli and Palestinian narrative.

"For the Palestinians, it is a search for civic statehood, for national, political expression through the organs of statehood," says Sucharov.

The demographic reality that Israel's retention of the territories would eventually result in a Jewish minority means, she says, "For Israel, there has been a shift from traditional border security to demographic security."

The peace process is at a crucial moment. The Palestinians held elections on January 25 and the Israeli elections are set for March 28.

In the Palestinian elections, Hamas won 60 per cent of the popular vote and two-thirds of the parliamentary seats. Hamas' victory is a clear message to the former Palestinian Authority government that people want change.

In keeping with the idea that "governments are voted out, not voted in," Sucharov views, "the election of a Hamas majority as a vote against the Palestinian Authority," that is regarded as corrupt, inept and a non-transparent entity.

Given the Hamas victory and the projected majority of the Kadima party, Sucharov outlined two possible outcomes arising from this new reality.



Dr. Mira Sucharov
(OJB Photo: Ariel Vered)

The first possibility is that nothing will happen, a tactic Sucharov referred to as "policy inertia." That is to say, Israel will cease to make any more moves and will not negotiate with Hamas, resulting in the depletion of Palestinian coffers due to a lack of Western aid.

The alternative would be Kadima's policy of unilateralism, with Israel changing its border configurations without negotiating. However, Sucharov pointed out that withdrawing from the West Bank would not be a cut-and-dried endeavour because those settlements are "entrenched, dispersed and hold a symbolic attachment."

Sucharov posed an important question: What do Israelis want? She employed the Peace Index, a monthly survey conducted by the Tami Steinmetz Center for Peace Research at Tel Aviv University, to characterize the attitude of the Israeli populace.

The most recently released index, for December 2005, revealed that Israelis would like to see negotiations with a stable Palestinian government. If no stable Palestinian government emerges, Israelis would like to see the status quo maintained, with no further unilateral steps for the time being.

Unilateralism is the least popular option. Sucharov noted the inherent contradiction between these results

and the massive support for Sharon's policies: the Israeli people support Kadima, but they don't favour unilateralism, which is one of Kadima's main policies.

Sucharov did not expect any big surprises in Israel's upcoming March election. Security and social issues will be decisive factors in the election's outcome.

With Kadima currently leading in the polls, "Israelis will want to take a tried-and-true course in the wake of the Palestinian elections," says Sucharov.

The next steps of the peace process hang in limbo while the world waits to see what the character of the Hamas government will be. The West responded to the election results with the proviso that they would not recognize a Hamas government or provide funding to Hamas unless the new Palestinian government recognizes Israel.

This reaction is underpinned by the current war on terror, wherein the United States denies diplomatic and financial recognition to any group that proposes terrorism. The question is whether Arab states will fill the void and provide aid to the Palestinian government.

Hamas' majority may help Israel.

Sucharov noted that the potential "mainstreamization of Hamas" may in fact co-opt militant Palestinian elements that seek to railroad the peace process.

"If Hamas is engaging in diplomatic efforts, maybe they will not try to derail their own efforts," she says.

Similarly, Hamas may moderate its platform to complement the negotiating power it now holds. Furthermore, Hamas may help Israel in the court of international opinion by taking pressure off Israel to make concessions in the short term.

Realistically, though, any possible peace between the Israelis and Hamas-led government would be "an ice cold peace," Sucharov says.

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The eyes and ears of the community

Editor's note: JFO Chair Ron Prehogan has arranged to share his column, on occasion, with the chairs or presidents of the community's major beneficiary agencies or committees so that they can provide some insight into their operations.

With apologies to William Shakespeare, our community is not an island.

As Ottawa's multicultural population continues to grow, it is of primary importance for the Jewish community to be heard and to listen.

We need to be aware of the larger community in which we live; the larger community has to be aware of who we are and what we are saying; and the Jewish community has to be aware of what we are doing, both inside and outside the walls of the Soloway Jewish Community Centre.

Hence, the rationale behind and the focus of the Federation's Communications and Community Relations Committee.

As the chair of the committee, I am trying to define where we are going with the group I have put together.

I would like to think we are filling the role of an editorial board for the community. Not an editorial board in the sense of writing editorials, but as a group with considerable expertise and experience in



Federation Report

Jeff Polowin
Communication Committee

communications becoming the community's eyes and ears on issues of major importance to the community.

Our meetings with the candidates from the three major parties seeking seats in the six Ottawa ridings in the federal election effectively illustrates where we are going with this committee.

The objective for the three sessions was multi-fold: to show the federal candidates the Ottawa Jewish community was actively engaged in the electoral process; to focus on the issues affecting our community and gain feedback from potential members of parliament; to educate these future decision-makers about the Federation; and to open the door to future discussions and exchange of information.

And we went through the process without endorsing a particular candidate or a party. You don't burn any bridges in the political game.

The coverage in the Bulletin provided

the candidates an opportunity to communicate their key messages to the Jewish community and further involved our community in the process.

A win-win exercise all around.

We are blessed to have members of the community who have considerable expertise and experience in communications. We intend to utilize that depth of experience in ensuring that not only are we involved but that we communicate that involvement to the Ottawa community as a whole.

It is important that we do not communicate mixed messages and that the right key messages are communicated by the right group to their respective target audiences.

This is not the same Ottawa in which many of us grew up in. Although the Jewish community is much larger than it was back in the '50s and '60s, so are the City of Ottawa and other communities within the city.

It is critically important that we are heard and that we listen. This committee of the Federation will be a major player in that effort.

Ottawa is in a unique situation. Unlike the other major cities across the country, as the capital, we are the seat of national power. With the national power come the lobbyists and those groups focused on representing the national Jewish population.

We have already met with these groups with the intent of establishing our geographical boundaries. The Federation speaks for the local community; the Canadian Jewish Congress and the Canada-Israel Committee speak on national issues in their own area of responsibility.

It is important that we do not communicate mixed messages and that the right key messages are communicated by the right group to their respective target audiences.

In closing, I would like to express my most sincere appreciation to the members of the Communications and Community Relations Committee – Ian Sadinsky, Bob Dale, Jonathan Calof, Benita Baker, Esther Berkovitch and Lawrence Soloway – for their commitment and support. And to the Senior Federation Communications Director, Francie Greenspoon, for her knowledge, expertise and enthusiasm.

Family places Israel's destiny above personal comfort

What can I tell you? Israel is a great country. Every visit there reveals a new feature, a new insight, a new inspiration.

Just recently, we (a group of rabbis) returned from the annual mission of the Rabbinic Cabinet for State of Israel Bonds.

This was a visit with a difference, coming as it did with Prime Minister Ariel (ben Deorah) Sharon lying in a coma in Hadassah Hospital, with the leadership of the country in his absence slowly but surely evolving, but with the country running on all cylinders.

In the lead-up to the forthcoming election, and with the leadership situation in flux, we did not have our usual diet of political figures. Instead, the focus was on the "ordinary" people, whom we found out once again are anything but ordinary.

As much as Israel is a forward-looking country, it is also a country with a long and exciting history, some of which excitement we could have done without.

Israel's is a history of thousands of years, and hundreds of hours. The way that news works today, what "was" remains relevant for at most a few days. But for the people involved in the news, the repercussions are independent of newsworthiness.

Such is the case with those who left the Gaza area a few months ago, some willingly, others less so. That there are people today who are still not in permanent homes is due to many factors, and it is fair to say that the blame for this is shared by many. The relo-



From the pulpit

Rabbi Reuven Bulka
Machzikel Hadas

cation process remains a major challenge, and much of the difficulty could have and should have been avoided. Some of the people were misled in a most irresponsible way, including by religious leaders.

The indisputable highlight of the trip was a visit to the newly developing city of Nitzan, not far from Gaza, where some have relocated. A group of us visited a family living in quarters that are a fraction of the size of their original home and with no farming opportunities for the household as they had had previously.

The husband/father, who did most of the talking, was recovering from open-heart surgery, such that with all the upheaval, the enforced rest was actually good for him. He had taken film of the flattening of his house, which we watched painfully. We learned that building a house takes a while, but destroying a house takes just minutes. The same, by the way, is true of a home. It takes years to build a home, a place of warmth, tenderness, and embrace; it takes only a small intrusion of ill will to destroy such a home.

Back to our hero. We listened carefully

to his words, but none of us heard any bitterness. Was he happy with what had happened to himself and his family? Absolutely not. But he refused to criticize. He fervently hoped for the recovery of Ariel Sharon, the person most instrumental to the withdrawal from Gaza.

And he said something that was most impressive, most inspiring and most instructive. He said he hopes to live long enough so that he will one day understand why this withdrawal had to happen. What an amazing attitude – an attitude clear of

any recrimination, an attitude of grudging – but forward-looking – acceptance, an attitude of hope.

Israel is still in the midst of healing from what could have been an irreparable rupture. It is not irreparable because the responsible authorities spent many hours in advance to perfect the most effective and caring approaches to withdrawal, and they continue to invest its resources in the healing. And it helps to have heroic families like the one we met, who place Israel's destiny above personal comfort.

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Community kept informed on Middle East events

(Continued from page 1)

surprised by the victory. His advice was to do nothing.

"Let them do whatever they want to do and then we should decide how we should react," he says.

"The less we talk about what we expect from them the better. Let them guess what they should do about it. It is a matter of tactics."

Israel has survived the terrorist onslaught and is "now back on course," Olmert believes. The terrorists have not succeeded in disrupting normal life, destroying the economy or creating a sense of despair and hopelessness.

"We are doing fantastically. Growth of 5.2 per cent, foreign currency accounts in a surplus for the first time in our history, unemployment down by 20 per cent to around nine per cent. The little State of Israel exports something like 65 billion dollars a year."

Meanwhile, Palestinian society has not stood up to the pressure of Israel's counter-terrorist activities and is now disintegrating, with clan fighting against clan.

"Ironically, the terrorists brought them to this point and they voted them in, in order to perpetuate the mistake," Olmert says.

The mood in Israel has changed in the



Editor

Barry Fishman

last three years. After the failure of Oslo (which was supported by 65 per cent of Israelis), Camp David and the rise of the intifada, many believe that a political solution is not possible at this time.

Unlike the right, who believe nothing can be done, or the left, who believe, at least until the election of Hamas, more concessions would lead to peace, Kadima is saying if there is no partner with whom to negotiate peace, we will have to do it our way by disengaging with the Palestinians.

This position helps explain public opinion polls that give Kadima a commanding lead. Based on the history of past elections, Olmert believes, "Unless something cataclysmic happens – a very unforeseen significant development – one could expect the results to be more or less as they are, with Kadima getting around 40 plus, Labour around 20 and Likud around 15."

When asked who the coalition part-

ners would be, if Kadima and his brother Ehud win the election, Olmert laughingly replies, "If I comment, nobody would believe I don't know about it."

In the interview with Dr. Tamar Hermann she says the most recent survey shows, "the Israeli public is rather calm [about Hamas's victory] as compared to the declarations by the authorities. People are not in panic."

There is a sense of confidence and a belief that Israel can win its battle with the terrorists, regardless of who is running the Palestinian government.

Although most believe a peace treaty is not possible with Hamas, Israelis expect the government to still talk with them, even those Israelis on the moderate right, including many Likud members.

"It is an interesting phenomenon that the public is more flexible than the decision makers," she says.

Kadima's success, she believes, is because "in the minds of perspective voters, it has established itself as left of Likud."

The survey shows that more and more Israelis see themselves politically in the centre. Hermann believes Kadima has a real chance of becoming a political party with staying power.

"It is interesting. There was a sense that Kadima doesn't have any character.

But now we see it has captured the centre. It looks as if it may be able to establish itself as a real party, not one that would disappear in no time, as many felt when the party was first established."

Dr. Asher Arian is not so sure. In his conversation with the *Bulletin* he says, "If I were to guess, it will go the way of all centralist parties. It will be around for one or two elections and then it will dissipate. Although there is a first time for everything, and I may be wrong."

The Israeli elections are a story of how fortune, luck and timing determine outcome.

"If just a few details had been different, Peres would have been the head of Labor and Sharon would have been fighting Netanyahu and Likud," Arian says.

The election is Olmert's to lose, he believes. "At the moment, he is doing fine. He is not making mistakes," he says.

Professors Arian and Hermann will expand on their views on the upcoming Israeli elections and what the Hamas victory means at a special briefing in Ottawa on Tuesday, March 7. Due to limited seating, this event is by invitation only. Anyone interested in attending is asked to contact Marra Messenger at the Canada Israel Committee (234-8271).

Prime Minister Harper defies the odds

Online gambling sites accept wagers on everything from sports to Oscar winners to celebrity weddings to, yes, even Canadian politics.

Over the past few years, an astute bettor might have made a small fortune playing the odds on the political career of our new prime minister.

After a stint heading a conservative lobby group, Stephen Harper re-entered public life a little more than four years ago. Since that time, prognosticators and pundits have repeatedly embarrassed themselves by underestimating his political acumen.

In four frantic years, Harper has managed to win the leadership of the Canadian Alliance, reunite a party badly split under previous leader Stockwell Day, organize a merger with the Progressive Conservative Party, win the leadership of the new and united Conservative Party of Canada, take that party – in 2004 – to the best electoral showing of a federal conservative party in 16 years, spearhead the early toppling of Paul Martin's minority government, and become one of Canada's youngest prime ministers ever.

In each of these cases, political observers said Harper didn't have much of a chance at success. They said he was insufficiently charismatic, that he was too much of a poli-



Alan Echenberg

cian, that he was too much of an ideologue and not enough of a pragmatist, that he wasn't inspiring enough as a leader, that he lacked the proverbial fire in the belly, that he was either too angry or too cold, that Paul Martin would make mincemeat of him.

They gave him long odds of succeeding.

Harper succeeded against those odds, and somebody somewhere probably made a few bucks betting on that success.

Now that he's become prime minister, is that lucky streak about to end?

Some said he sowed the seeds of an eventual political defeat earlier this month – on the very day his government was sworn into office.

Harper surprised many with some of his cabinet choices – most notably his International Trade Minister David Emerson and his Public Works Minister Michel Fortier.

Lacking Conservative MPs from the country's biggest cities, the new prime minister persuaded Liberal cabinet minister

Emerson – from Vancouver – to jump parties, and he appointed unelected Conservative Party activist Fortier – from Montreal – to the Senate, so they could both serve in a Harper cabinet.

Political coups? On one level, sure. But many of Harper's own supporters were shocked at the seeming hypocrisy of these appointments from a leader who ran on cleaning up the system, making MPs more accountable to their constituents, and reforming the Senate.

Indeed, those voters who thought they elected a government committed to doing politics differently will have discovered an unexpected bug of cynicism sitting in their morning bowl of idealism. They can only hope it doesn't herald a coming infestation.

No one questioned the experience and competence of the two new ministers, so maybe Harper was willing to sacrifice the short-term pain of political outrage for the perceived long-term gain of having two big-city ministers in cabinet.

In fact, experience and competence – or at least the perception thereof – seemed to be the main criteria for a number of Harper's cabinet picks.

Anyone with any governing experience at all – such as former provincial cabinet ministers John Baird, Tony Clement, Jim Flaherty, Loyola Heam, Vic Toews, Lawrence Can-

non and Stockwell Day – was in.

At the same time, some long-time, prominent Conservative MPs without governing experience – such as Diane Ablonczy and James Moore – were left out in the cold, asked to settle for second-tier roles as parliamentary secretaries.

In the end, maybe Harper – so frequently written off – has again demonstrated the political skills his detractors so often forget he possesses.

If there is one overarching goal for this new minority government, it is this: Minimize rookie mistakes to gain voter trust for an election that will come sooner rather than later.

Anything the Harper government does over the next while should be seen as serving that goal above all others. If the new prime minister has proven anything, it's that he knows how to keep his eyes on the prize.

With the opposition Liberal Party in a rebuilding mode for the foreseeable future, prognosticators and pundits are now giving Harper a better-than-average shot at forming a majority government within a year or two and governing for some time to come.

For a politician with a track record of defying the odds, that may not be such good news for Stephen Harper.

Alan Echenberg is the *Parliament Hill* bureau chief for Studio 2, TVOntario's nightly current affairs program.

Menace of the New Year: Iran's President Ahmadinejad

By Rabbi
Abraham Cooper,
Harold Brackman
and Leo Adler,
Simon Wiesenthal Center

While *Time* magazine chose Bill and Melinda Gates and Bono as its 2005 "persons of the year," the cover of the *Devil's Advocate* would certainly have been adorned with Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

How to respond to Ahmadinejad's in-your-face challenges? To retreat into silent paralysis would be read in the Mideast much the way the world's silent acquiescence to Saddam's gassing of the Kurds – as a tacit green light to up the ante.

World leaders have two choices: de-couple Iran's nuclear threat from Tehran's anti-Jewish genocidal declarations in order to first defuse a clear-and-present danger, or insist on linking the nuclear and ideological threats because there can be no meaningful nuclear deal with a regime flaunting every international norm by

threatening genocide.

On the surface, the "de-coupling" strategy favoured by foreign policy "realists" seems compelling. A nuclearized Iran would pose an immediate threat to her neighbours and most European capitals. Deal with the genocidal bombast, only after an understanding on Tehran's atomic designs has been reached.

But treating genocidal threats as mere tactical bravado rather than a strategic goal proved disastrous at a pivotal moment of the 20th century.

In 1938, Western democracies recognized that they faced an aggressive Germany with designs on its neighbours led by a totalitarian dictator whose statecraft included inciting Jew hatred on an international scale.

Appeasement – the surrender of democratic Czechoslovakia – just whetted Hitler's aggressive ideological and territorial appetites. The result was a world war within a year, and the Nazi "war against the

OPINION

Jews" that forever shamed European civilization.

Tehran's mullahs are weaponizing hatred and marketing it globally, the same way they plan to weaponize uranium for missile warheads to menace Israel and Europe.

Their hatred of Jews and Judaism is no fleeting tactic, but a pillar of their worldview and game plan. Once, Nazi war criminals fled to Argentina. Now, Europe's Neo-Nazi Holocaust Deniers find safe haven and acclaim in Tehran. The line between anti-Semitic hate speech and terrorism was long ago erased when Iranian agents in 1994 murdered and maimed hundreds when they bombed the Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires.

And it should surprise no one that President Ahmadinejad chose Mecca – Islam's holiest site – to throw down the gauntlet to the civilized world by threatening genocide against Israel.

While this campaign may be geared in part to deflect anger over the regime's inability to meet the spiritual and material needs of Iran's burgeoning youthful population, it is also a bold stroke by a non-Arab leader to grab the centre stage of power and influence in the broader Muslim world.

To drive home the point, Ahmadinejad shortly thereafter marched at the head of tens of thousands of young demonstrators in Tehran burning Israeli (and American) flags to a public square where he again dismissed the "myth that Jews were massacred" in the Holocaust and suggested that the Jewish state – every bit as much a rightful member of the UN as Iran – be removed to Austria, Canada or Alaska.

Tehran's state-controlled media quickly echoed their president's death wish against Israel, and also against its Jewish and non-Jewish supporters who place Zionism "above God, religion and the prophets," by unveiling two new films that deny the Holocaust and validate the conspiracies of *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*, a notorious anti-Semitic forgery.

Meanwhile, not a single Arab or Muslim government has condemned Tehran's pre-genocidal campaign. Perhaps government leaders remember how former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri

– murdered last year by Syrian agents – had earlier got on the wrong side of Damascus' Bashir Assad.

In 2001, Hariri courageously cancelled an international Holocaust Deniers' Conference, scheduled for Beirut and organized by Jürgen Graf, a professional bigot who fled Switzerland to Tehran after being sentenced to jail for defaming the memory of Hitler's victims.

Among those invited to Beirut was National Alliance head William L. Pierce, author of the infamous racist tract, *The Turner Diaries*, that served as blueprint for Timothy McVeigh's terrorist attack in Oklahoma City.

President Ahmadinejad – who first earned an advanced revolutionary degree during the 1979 US Embassy hostage crisis – personifies the near-triumph of the 21st century's most dangerous ideology. No, not theocratic Islamic extremism, though that's menacing enough. Rather, the ideology of Holocaust Denial, transmuted from European bigots into the Arab and Muslim mainstream – where it has come to serve as the great unifier coalescing haters – Arab and Persian, Muslim and Christian – across every ethnic, religious, and ideological line.

Despite recent condemnation, the world continues to give Mideast hatemongers mixed signals. In June 2005,

UN Secretary Kofi Annan described the world body as "emerging from the ashes of the Holocaust" to rectify great evils like Jew hatred.

But the UN General Assembly has failed to even censure Tehran for threatening genocide against a member state and at the recent UN Palestine Day, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan appeared in front of a map of the Mideast minus Israel.

It's beginning to dawn on some world leaders that we are approaching a 21st century "Munich moment." Will Washington succumb to threats that Iran would activate a terrorist network to "bum" American cities if the world takes action against their nuclear program? Will the European Union seek to appease Tehran's official policy of Jew-hatred in hopes that any toxic fallout will be limited to the Middle East? After the riots in France, suicide bombings in London and Islamist murder in Holland, everyone, even Iran's longtime ally, France, knows that they are all in the crosshairs of terror and hate.

And we all know that 2006 is different than 1938. Now, global delivery systems of propaganda and weapons of mass destruction exist to fulfill Hitler's blueprint. But in the dawn of the New Year, the jury is still out whether the world has the will to thwart Tehran's twin threats before it is too late.

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Pirkei Avot: the wisdom of our sages

The seven habits of successful people

By Rabbi Micah Shokin

Long before all the self-help books and corporate seminars, our sages, in Pirkei Avot (5:9) shared with us the Torah's formula for success.

The Mishna lists seven traits of a "ha'cham, a wise person: 1) They don't begin speaking before someone that is greater than they are in wisdom or in years. 2) They don't interrupt when someone else is speaking. 3) They don't answer impetuously. 4) Their questions are on topic and they reply accurately. 5) They discuss first things first and last things last. 6) They are willing to admit ignorance. 7) They are willing to admit to the truth.

Oddly enough, none of these traits expose the great intellect or knowledge of the person. Waiting to hear what others say and then slowly answering doesn't divulge any great

truths about the world. Yet, it speaks volumes about the person's wisdom.

A truly wise person is always willing to listen. We can only make an intelligent response when we have listened to all that needs to be said.

The fourth and fifth traits emphasize it is through deliberate and well thought out use of our words that we can conduct an intelligent, productive dialogue. So much of what we say and do is without any forethought.

The last two habits also teach us that true wisdom is attained through humility. Only a person who is willing to admit that they don't know everything and that they may be mistaken will seek out the truth and become a true fountain of wisdom.

The words of our sages ring as true today, as they did thousands of years ago.



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Art Lecture focus: sculptor Jacob Epstein

Fans of Jennifer Dickson, CM, RA - and they are legion - will be delighted to learn this artist/lecturer extraordinaire will deliver the third in her fascinating series of lectures on Wednesday, April 5 at 7:00 pm, Cadieux Auditorium, Sussex Drive, Foreign Affairs-Lester B. Pearson Building.

Ms. Dickson will speak on 'Jacob Epstein: The Creative Rebel.'

The son of Jewish emigrants from Eastern Europe, Jacob Epstein was known for his truly original sculptural works. Included among them: some of the most significant Christian art of the 20th century.

Jacob Epstein grew up in New York's Lower East Side and studied art there as a teenager. He later studied in France with the famous sculptor Auguste Rodin, and ultimately settled in England. His works became a source of controversy until his death in 1959. He was knighted by the Queen in 1954 for his service to British art.

The highly popular lecture series, chaired by Doris Bronstein, is held under the auspices of JNF Ottawa and sponsored by Carol Greenberg and family. The Honorary Patron is Mrs. Dalia Baker, wife of His Excellency Alan Baker, ambassador of Israel to Canada.

Price of admission: One Tree or \$18.

Outdoor parking is available at the NRC building on Sussex Drive, opposite Foreign Affairs.

To reserve your seat, please call the JNF Ottawa office, 798-2411.

October 16-30 Prague & Israel

Have we got a trip for you!

The JNF Canada Mission to Israel with a visit to Prague promises to be a highlight-packed, highly memorable journey. This all-inclusive luxury package features first class hotels and buses in Prague and Israel. Cost: \$4,495 edn pp double occupancy ex Toronto.

In Prague, you'll stay in the deluxe Intercontinental Hotel situated in the heart of the city. Leaving daily from your luxurious accommodations, you'll enjoy three full days of touring ... extensive touring of the Jewish Quarter and historical Prague ... you'll visit Terezin and see the Hidden Synagogue and the Jewish Cemetery, you'll tour Hradecany Castle - seat of Czech royalty - and St. Vitus Cathedral. You'll cruise on the Vltava ... and more.

In Israel, you'll stay at 5 Star-plus hotels: the King David Jerusalem, Hilton Tel Aviv and Galei Kinneret Tiberias ... and you'll see so much: Migdido, Zippori, Ailut, Ramat Menashe, Menara Cable Car and the security roads ... you'll do so much: stop in Safed for a 'spiritual experience' ... visit the Golan Winery and Beit Knesset in Katzrin ... walk the underground tunnels ... the old city of Jerusalem ... listen to IDF briefing ... naval base ... tree planting ... new Herzl Museum ... Saraf olive picking/cheese tasting ... R&D station ... Sde Boker and Ben Gurion's Hut ... Hilton Tel Aviv private beach ... and more.

For information call the JNF Ottawa office, 798-2411.

Sefer Bar/Bat Mitzvah Inscription

On the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah, Aaron Benjamin Levine has been inscribed in the Sefer Bar/Bat Mitzvah by his parents Marie and Howard Levine. The Sefer Bar/Bat Mitzvah is housed in the KKL-JNF offices in Jerusalem. Aaron is invited to visit the KKL-JNF offices to see the inscription when he is in Israel.

On a daily basis you can plant trees for all occasions. An attractive card is sent to the recipient. To order, call the JNF office (798-2411).



Carleton professor examines Jewish attitudes towards Holocaust

By Alexander Baker

What do you think of when you hear the word Holocaust? Is it the same as what another Jew thinks of? What about someone whose parents or grandparents lived through it?

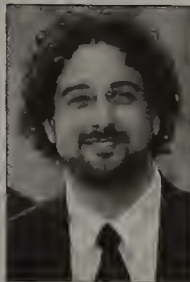
These questions and others like them have been on Michael Wohl's mind since he began to study the psychology of being Jewish. Wohl is currently an associate professor of psychology at Carleton University. He began work on his Holocaust-perceptions study last September.

"I remember my grandparents speaking of their experiences of trying to get into Poland while evading the Nazis," says Wohl. "But, of course, you don't have to have been involved in the Holocaust to have opinions on the matter."

Growing up in a traditional Jewish household in Winnipeg, the 30-year-old Wohl says he has always been interested in how Jews react to their own identity or "Jewishness."

"To some people, being Jewish is a central aspect of their being," he says, "but to others it's not a big deal."

For this particular study, Wohl is interested in assessing the opinions of younger Jews - between 18 and 35 - and comparing their beliefs about the Holocaust to those of their parents. There is a questionnaire with a list of



Michael Wohl

statements; the test subjects rate how much they agree or disagree with each statement on a seven-point scale.

There are also a few "very short answer questions asking people their thoughts" about the Holocaust.

"I want to look into the parental experience, how it's transmitted to the next generation along with the parents' attitudes and behaviours," he says.

"How involved [the children] are in the Jewish community and how involved they want to be is a result."

Aviva Freedman, co-director of the Centre for Jewish Studies at Carleton, says the concept of forgiveness is another part of Wohl's study.

"The use of the word 'forgive' relating to the Holocaust and in his study is a little idiosyncratic," she says. "For some people it could mean 'I understand there were other things

going on in your life at the time, so I forgive you,' but for others it could just mean 'I'm going to move on and not dwell on the [terrible things] you did.'"

Wohl says he is ultimately interested in the community as a whole, what he calls the "community-wide effect" of the way Jews remember their history. Of course, to really get a good picture of the way a community thinks and feels, it is necessary to be a part of that community.

"I know that from the first weekend Michael was here he was connected with the Jewish community," says Freedman. "Here he is going out and extending himself beyond the academic community."

Wohl has since joined the Agudath Israel congregation, frequents the SJCC and has attended Jewish Student Association Shabbatons and given talks to the group.

And yet, he has only been in Ottawa for three years. Wohl came here from Edmonton, where he had gone to the University of Alberta and received a PhD in psychology. While he lived there, he also did some research into the perceptions

Jewish people have of Palestinians. This laid the groundwork for his community-based research, which he was able to begin after accepting a research job from Carleton.

The current Holocaust-related study will last three years. This past summer, Wohl applied for a research grant from the federal government and his project was awarded \$110,000 over the next three years. While the study is still in its early stages, Wohl hopes the results will benefit Ottawa's Jewish population.

"The results I'm gathering can help us understand ourselves as a community and the impact our history can have on this generation," he says. "Hopefully that will help subsequent generations identify factors that bring health and well-being and bring our community together."

Once the results are in, Wohl says he will publish them in academic journals and speak about them in Ottawa's Jewish community.

To get involved in the study, you can contact Neil or Tania (520-2600, ext. 2683 or by e-mail, jewishlifestudy@hotmail.com).

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Tribute event for the vunder-child of Uzghorod

By Kinneret Globernian

There's a large sepia-coloured photograph that sits in Cantor Moshe Kraus' library. It shows a solemn-eyed boy and his father, the father's hand resting solidly on the young lad's shoulder as they both stare squarely at the camera.

This boy was a singing prodigy at the time, with a voice so remarkable in its beauty that, once heard, could never be forgotten. It's unlikely he or his father could have imagined, then, what the future would hold for either one of them.

And what a book-worthy future it turned out to be! The boy's life of 84 years has taken him to places his father would never have believed.

The boy is Ottawa's own Cantor Moshe Kraus and it is his *chassidus*-devoted (loving-kindness) life that the Ottawa Jewish Youth Library will pay tribute to in June.

"We want to honour Can-

tor Kraus' contribution to Jewish life before the Second World War, during the war, and after the war," says the library's co-director, Devora Caytak.

That contribution is enormous. Never in cantorial history, apparently, has there been a cantor with a career spanning 70 years. Or ever a cantor who has sung the *Kol Nidre* 210 times! And never has there been one who was invited to places no other cantor had ever ventured.

His illustrious career began when Cantor Kraus was just a child in Uzghorod, before that Czechoslovakian town was taken over by Hungary. He was discovered by the Chief Cantor of Sewius, who - visiting the town at the time - happened to be walking by the Kraus home one day when the eight-year-old was singing.

The discovery led to choir solos with the cantor's choir, and the solos led to notoriety.



Cantor Moshe Kraus as a boy

People marvelled when he opened his mouth to sing, and such a strong and beautiful voice emerged.

"They couldn't believe it from a little *boychik* of

eight," reminisces the cantor. "I became a vunderkind. Some say that the wonder left and the child remained and some say the child left and the wonder

remained," he chuckles.

There wasn't a wedding, a *chevra kadisha seuda*, a Talmud Torah or yeshiva fundraiser, nor a city in Europe, says the cantor, that didn't invite him to grace their *shuls*.

And the rest is an amazing history.

Cantor Kraus escaped Vienna two days after Kristallnacht. When he heard that Sighet - Elie Wiesel's birthplace - was looking for a cantor, he auditioned and was hired on the spot.

"It was a sensation!" he says. "It wasn't just the Chief Cantor, like it is here. It was the *Shtetl Chazzan*, the City Cantor. To be a *Shtetl Chazzan* for a *boychik* of 18! Never in the history! It was a big deal."

Cantor Kraus had to leave Sighet after being detained and beaten up by its police one Friday on his way to *shul* services. He went to Budapest and became the

Chief Cantor of the orthodox Kozincz synagogue, and soon after was taken to three labour camps before ending up in Bergen-Belsen where he survived 11 months of its horrors.

Almost upon his release, he became the Chief Cantor of Bucharest's Great Malbim Synagogue, and then had to escape Bucharest and its communists.

He returned to Bergen-Belsen and became the general secretary of the Chief Rabbinate for three years before winding up in Israel in 1948 as the army's Chief Cantor, where he met and married his Israeli-born wife, Rivka.

Four years later, he became the City Cantor of Antwerp, and then Johannesburg, South Africa, where he stayed for 12 years. The Kraus's were then thrust as caretakers for the six children of Rivka's brother and sister-in-law in Israel who suddenly died. They returned to Israel and years later, made their way to Ottawa.

"In my time, a cantor was not an entertainer, and not a prima donna opera singer, and not a vocal acrobat. A cantor was a messenger from the people to pray for their good luck, to pray for nachos from the children, to pray for their health," he says. "And people believed in it."

Cantor Kraus has travelled the world, making regular trips to his old synagogue in Budapest to conduct services there for the High Holy Days, and back again during Chanukah to participate in the celebrations. He has been invited to sing in places like Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, Caracas, Mexico, Lima, Costa Rica, Chicago, Los Angeles, Strasbourg, London, Paris, and not once

(Continued on page 11)

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Cantor Moshe Kraus lights the menorah in front of the Hungarian Parliament in Budapest.

Cantor Kraus honoured

(Continued from page 10)

or twice or even five times, but 19 or 20 times. They always wanted him back.

Remarkably, he was also invited to two countries where Jews were scarce: Teheran, under the Shah, and Istanbul. And every 10 years (even though he has been urged to come more often), he returns to Bergen-Belsen for Yom HaShoah services, most recently for its 60th anniversary. It has only been

in the last couple of years that he has slowed down his travelling.

Yet if you ask him what the highlight of his career is, he won't mention any of these places or the book's worth of experiences he has lived to see. "My highlight was every *tefillah*. Every *davening* I gave my best. This was my highlight. I knew I'm standing before God. I didn't *daven* to entertain people. I *davened* for God."

The JYL will sponsor an evening of Chassidic song and tales in honour of Cantor Kraus on Sunday, June 25 at 7:30 pm, at the house of Dr. Jozef and Vera Straus. Cost of the evening has yet to be announced, however, there will be different levels of sponsorship with all proceeds going towards the Library's good works.

For more information, call the library and Devora Caytak (729-7712).

Camp George: a summer of unforgettable experiences

By Debra

and Margo Viner

You don't have to give up anything to enjoy a Jewish life when you are at Camp George.

Camp George is one of several Union of Reform Judaism Camps (the only one in Canada) located in Muskoka just south of Parry Sound, about two and a half hours north of Toronto.

Both as staff and campers, our children have experienced amazing summers, filled with sports, waterfront activities, a challenging ropes course and an arts program that makes us wish we could be campers again.

Lauren and Josh have attended Camp George since its inaugural year in 1999, and now, as senior staff, they are both excited about return-

ing to camp for another fantastic summer.

"There's a place for everyone, no matter what your skill level is. There is something so special about sharing Havdallah by the lake or around the campfire, and it is an experience that you don't get back home," says Lauren.

Josh is impressed with the training he has received.

"The training we get during staff week has really made a difference as to how I can help my kids – especially regarding inclusion strategies, and this has really made camp life so much better for everyone."

The campers and counselors always look forward to Shabbat. The entire camp prepares to celebrate with a sing-song Shabbat Walk, a camper-led Kabbalat Shabbat service and programming

after dinner that is meaningful and fun.

Shabbat morning is an incredible experience, as girls and boys participate equally in prayer, including spirited singing (with guitars, flutes, etc.) and sharing in the reading of the weekly Torah Parasha.

In addition to the complement of junior and senior camp counsellors and specialists, there are many rabbis, cantors, and educators who create, along with the staff, an engaging and fun approach to Jewish learning.

Camp George offers 12- and 15-day camp sessions for first-time youngsters. It is a wonderful way to introduce a positive Jewish camping experience to your family.

For further information visit Camp George on line (www.campgeorge.org).

Jewish Community Service Awards

Members of the Jewish community are invited to nominate individuals to receive the following community awards at the Annual General Meeting of the Federation in early June.

Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award

The Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award is the highest tribute that the Ottawa Jewish Community can bestow on an individual for exceptional service over the course of many years.

Initiated in 1980, it bears the name of the late Past President of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, Gilbert Greenberg, who exemplified the qualities of leadership, which the award endeavours to recognize.

Freiman Family Young Leadership Award

The Freiman Family Young Leadership Award recognizes an individual or an organization within the Jewish community, under the age of 40, who has contributed actively to the Jewish community in the two or more years following his/her participation in the Young Leadership Development Program, or as a young leader rendered exceptional service to the Jewish community.

The Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award

"There are three crowns: the crown of Torah, the crown of priesthood, and the crown of kingship; but the crown of a good name excels them all."
- Rabbi Shimon

The Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award was created to recognize an outstanding and active volunteer with the Jewish community who, through many years of service, has contributed to the enrichment of Jewish life in Ottawa.

Address Recommendations by March 31, 2006 to:

Nominations for Community Award
c/o Chair of the Selection Committee
Jewish Federation of Ottawa

21 Nadolny Sachs Private, Ottawa, Ontario K2A 1R9

For more information, please visit www.jewishottawa.com

NOMINATION FORM (Please attach another page to tell us more)

- ☐ Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award
- ☐ Freiman Family Young Leadership Award
- ☐ Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award

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Nominator name

Daytime Phone

E-mail Address

ABOUT NOMINEE

Nominee

Agency or Organization

E-mail Address

Detail community involvement and special contributions

'Protect yourself, project yourself,' theme of Na'amat workshop

By Rose Armstrong

Ever wonder how Jennifer Lopez got her great body and strong self-defence moves for the movie *Enough* – the story of how she gets back at her abusive husband?

She got it with the help of the practical and tactical moves of Krav Maga, an Israeli martial art.

The story of the abuse suffered by the protagonist in that movie is the sad story of many women around the world. The women Na'amat wants to help.

Na'amat Canada raises money for women's shel-

ters, day care centres and the legal defence of women in Israel and Canada, recognizing, Hollywood movies aside, women need a place where they can go to get help.

Whether in Israel or in Canada, or around the world, Na'amat members are volunteers looking for empowerment and strategies to make them better leaders in the Jewish community, as well as in their workplaces and with their families.

Na'amat Ottawa is hosting a special half-day workshop entitled *Protect Yourself, Project Yourself*,

designed to look at both the individual and self-protection, and more global aspects of empowerment and security.

A representative from the Israeli embassy will speak about the current security situation and why the involvement of organizations like Na'amat means so much to the country.

Anita Blanshoy, former president of Na'amat Canada, will discuss Na'amat security initiatives in Israel and the reasons behind the need to budget for extra security at Na'amat day care centres.



Personal coach
Su Thomas

Personal coach Su Thomas of NLP Partners (www.nlppartners.com) will talk about the messages we may be giving

subconsciously to others and how that impacts on our ability to lead others.

How to effectively "read" the body language of others will also be taught.

A book sale table will feature a wide variety of books about personal security, personal empowerment and personal presentation and leadership skills.

The fun activity will be learning some of the moves of Krav Maga from one of the only experts in the region, John Leroux (www.karatefit.com).

It will be a hands-on, participatory exercise to

not only get the blood pumping and have some fun, but also to learn some empowering and practical moves.

In learning special holds and "take-down moves," Na'amat volunteers will be paying homage to all of those women still struggling with abuse – either physically or emotionally – and the effects of terrorism and a weakened economy.

For more information on the workshop or joining Na'amat, call Na'amat Ottawa President Marian Lederman (224-6743), or e-mail her (marian.lederman@sympatico.ca).

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Machon Sarah High School plays it again

By Grade 10 students
Elisheva Stulberg
and Nechama Friedman
The Machon Sarah High School students' girls are at it again.

The 13-girl high school is going to light the theatre world on fire with their new play *Conquer the Darkness*.

The play is set in modern times in a Beth Jacob Middle School somewhere in North America. It's centred around two best friends, Nechama and Rena, whose friendship is tested when one of the girls becomes blind in a tragic accident.

The Machon Sarah girls

are putting a tremendous amount of work into the play. Not only do many of them play multiple roles, but also all the scenery and props are being prepared by the girls themselves.

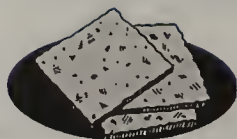
The students are grateful to volunteer directors Shoshana and Leah Katz for

the amount of time they have dedicated to the play.

The play will take place on Sunday evening, March 5, at Congregation Machzikei Hadas. This delightful musical is sure to move the audience to tears.

For more information call Gillit (829-8465).

**Jewish Family Services of Ottawa
Invites all Women to Come Together
For a Night of Solidarity and Celebration at the
1st Annual Community Wide**



Shalom BOYIT



Women's Seder

Monday, April 17th, 2006 • 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Agudath Israel Congregation

\$18.00 per person

Contact Stacey Segal or Rebecca Fromowitz at 722-2225

**to Purchase a Ticket or to Sponsor a Ticket for a Woman
who Would Otherwise be Unable to Attend**

Monday
March 27th
at 7:30pm



The Ottawa Jewish Community
unites in a celebration of
Jewish learning...



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Rebbetzin

Esther Jungreis

Director of Hineni,
survivor of Bergen-Belsen,
world-renowned author and lecturer



Canadian Museum of Nature
Tickets: \$36, Students: \$18

Featuring:

Kol Zimra Ensemble

Who have performed across
North America and Israel, including
the White House Chanukah Party with President Bush



JYL dedicates Children's Library to David the Bear Kardash

By Lewis Levin
On Sunday, January 22, friends and family of the late David *The Bear* Kardash gathered at 192 Switzer Avenue to participate in a dedication ceremony for the Jewish Children's Library.

The notion of dedicating

the Jewish Children's Library in memory of *The Bear* was first conceived early in 2005. Devora Caytak was planning a major fundraising initiative for the Jewish Youth Library (JYL). In meeting with community leaders to explore appropri-

ate themes for the event, David Kardash's name kept coming up.

Margie Kardash embraced the idea and soon the entire Kardash family was on board. All agreed that raising money for the JYL and dedicating the Children's Library to David was a beautiful and meaningful way to memorialize a man who loved children, valued life-long learning and committed much of his personal time and energy to the Jewish community.

Over 300 guests attended the May 31, 2005 David *The Bear* Kardash Memorial Lecture at Machzikei Hadas Synagogue. The evening guest speaker was world renowned radio/TV talk show host, author and lecturer, Dennis Prager.

In January, the Children's Library dedication ceremony began with friends and family gathering on the main floor of the Jewish Youth Library.

Everyone had stories to tell, but the real spotlight seemed to fall on Shmuel and



The Bear's namesake, grandson David, enjoys the celebration, along with Ellie Kamil, Bubby Margie Kardash and Uncle Alex.

Sarah Kardash's young son, David. While still a little young for membership status, it won't be long before he is signing out books from the library named in his Zadie's memory.

Caytak launched the cere-

mony with welcoming remarks and personal thanks to all who had helped make the dream become a reality. She then turned the podium over to *The Bear*'s most revered mentor and friend, Rabbi Reuven Bulka.

Rabbi Bulka fondly reminisced about the many hours he spent on the *bima* with *The Bear* while he served as president of Congregation Machzikei Hadas. He spoke of *The Bear*'s childlike curiosity; how he wanted to know everything about Yiddishkeit and to understand the circumstances under which Jewish customs and rituals might be affected and how.

The more the rabbi spoke, the more evident his love and esteem for his late friend became.

With the help of Margie, Rabbi Bulka removed the veil from the new plaque on the Children's Library door. As the veil was being removed, several children sat quietly in the Children's Library enjoying their special space. There was no opportunity for a ribbon cutting. The library was in business.

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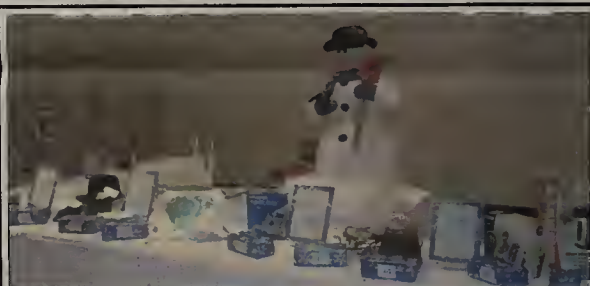
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SHELDON TAYLOR

HOMEWATCH CAREGIVERS



The Soloway JCC and Torah Academy will host their 7th Annual Chinese Buffet and Auction on Saturday, February 25 at the Soloway JCC. See story on page 17.



JTX

Teen
Jewish Expression



A Creative Arts Competition for Jewish Teens in Ottawa

ENTER YOUR ORIGINAL & JEWISH THEMED
PIECE INTO 1 OF 3 CATEGORIES

Creative Writing

Poetry, Short Story, Essay

\$360 CASH PRIZE

Photography

Digital or Film

\$360 CASH PRIZE

Visual Art

Painting, Drawing, Sculpture

\$360 CASH PRIZE

ENTRY DEADLINE: Thursday, March 9, 2006

For Full Contest Rules or To Register: www.ncsyottawa.com or
Contact Bram Bregman at 262-6279 or bram@ncsyottawa.com

JTX LIVE - Sunday, March 26

Soloway Jewish Community Centre

1:00pm - 4:00pm

**Open to the Community - All Entries on Display
Winners Announced - Live Music - Desserts**





Right On The Head Juggling & Extreme Unicycling Troup will appear at the OTC "A Big Fat Greek Purim" event on March 13.

OTC's Big Fat Greek Purim

"So, where are we travelling to for Purim this year?" is the question that Rabbi Menachem Blum of Ottawa Torah Center Chabad (OTC) is being asked as the holiday of Purim approaches.

For the past eight years, OTC has organized a family theme party for Purim with a different theme each year. From the Hawaiian Luau to a *Purim Fiesta*, *Purim Around the World* has drawn hundreds of participants to its events.

"These events bring families together in an exciting celebration of fun for all ages," says Rabbi Blum.

Following the success of last year's Russian Purim, this year

OTC will be featuring a "A Big Fat Greek Purim," Monday, March 13, 2006 at the Embassy West Hotel, 1400 Carling Avenue, in the North American Ballroom.

The program will begin with the traditional Megillah reading along with a simultaneous slide show. The ballroom will be decorated Greek style and a delicious catered Greek buffet dinner, "all one can eat" will be served.

From columns to baklava to wreaths and authentic dress, the event will bring ancient, first century Greece to life. The evening will include live music, featuring a Greek Bouzouki musician, Greek cuisine, crafts for kids and a fun

time for everyone.

The program will also feature an amazing show by "Right On The Head Juggling & Extreme Unicycling Troup." With a mix of juggling, unicycling, comedy and balloon art, they have been successfully entertaining families in the National Capital area and throughout the province.

After the show, troop members will teach those interested in learning how to juggle and even unicycle.

Admission is \$18 for adults, \$10 for children. For more information and reservation, please call Rabbi Blum at OTC (823-0866) or log onto www.OttawaTorahCenter.com.



Jetsetters make the world a little bit better

Lisa Miller, Eric Khaia and Debra Gordon pack food for the homeless. A group of young Jewish singles recently spent two hours packing food for the hungry and homeless at the Ottawa Food Bank. The group, members of Jetsetters, plans to return soon to help out.

Elat Chayyim rabbi special guest lecturer at Temple Shabbaton

Temple Israel will welcome Rabbi David Ingber as Shabbat scholar-in-residence the weekend of February 24-25.

Rabbi Ingber is a rabbi-in-residence at Elat Chayyim, a unique Jewish centre for people of all ages, backgrounds and levels of observance that offers a year-round variety of learning programs such as retreats in a relaxed and scenic setting.

The centre's ambition is to renew and revitalize relationships with Jewish tradition and deepen our connections with the Divine.

Temple Israel has invited Rabbi Ingber because it sees a similarity between Temple's Vision Statement to "thoughtfully consider ways of making our Jewish traditions relevant and meaningful in our current world" and the Elat Chayyim's commitment to growth, change and integration.

Rabbi Ingber's topic will be "Does your God know My God? Different Conceptions of the Divine."

Temple Israel invites the whole community to celebrate Shabbat with Rabbi Ingber and Rabbi Steven Garten.

The event begins Erev Shabbat, February 24, with Kabbalat



Rabbi David Ingber

Shabbat services led by Rabbi Garten and Ingber starting at 6:15 pm, followed by a Shabbaton dinner at 7:15 pm.

On February 25, the program includes Torah study with Rabbi Ingber, morning tefilot, Seudah Shlishit, Shiur and Havdallah.

Please note for catering purposes, pre-registration for the Shabbaton dinner and Seudah Shlishit is required by Monday, February 20.

The cost is \$36 and is payable by cheque or credit card.

For more information, call 224-1802, fax 224-0707 or email execdir@templeisraelottawa.ca.



What is "Glida?"

Hillel Grade 1 students, along with their teacher Mora Sara Levinson and Vice-principal Sara Breiner, enjoy Hebrew Language – especially when it includes Glida (ice cream). Hillel uses the "Tal Am" curriculum to instill both a love of language and a sense of Zionism in the children. Visit Hillel on the web (www.hillelacademy.ca) to find out more about Hebrew language at Hillel.

CICF's cultural adventure to Israel and Jordan

By Dr. Norm Barwin
and Sara Vered

Twenty-nine members from the Ottawa Chapter of Canada-Israel Cultural Foundation (CICF) and two Toronto participants enjoyed an exciting trip to Israel and Jordan led by Dr. Norm Barwin and Sara Vered in November. The group travelled all over Israel to experience the country's myriad cultural treasures. The following are highlights of the trip:

First stop was Tel Aviv's Palmach Museum, whose brilliantly laid-out exhibit enabled participants to feel part of that important aspect of the establishment of the State of Israel. The group then wandered through thousands of years of history at Ha'aretz Museum. That evening, the Davis family joined the group for a Shabbat dinner.

After touring the art of Jaffa's 250-year-old Ilana Goor Museum and enjoying the colourful open-air bazaar of Nachalat Binyamin and Simtat Plonit, the group attended a reception at the residence of Zeev and Sara Vered. This evening initiated the *ruach* and friendship that became a hallmark of the mission. Stopping en route at the Yitzhak Rabin Memorial, the group was overwhelmed and moved by the crowds gathered to honour this unique Israeli.

In Haifa, the group toured the Hecht Museum at Haifa University and then had lunch in a Druze village. They experienced Druze hospitality, food and entertainment and learned about their

culture and traditions. The group visited the late 19th-Century colony established by the German Templar Religious Reform Movement and the Muchraka, a Carmelite monastery where Elijah confronted the false prophets passing through the spectacular Jerez valley.

Crossing into Jordan, the group visited the revered site of Mount Nebo, where Moses viewed the Promised Land. In Madaba, known for its spectacular Byzantine and Umayyad mosaics, the group saw the famous 6th-century mosaic map of Jerusalem and the Holy Land. The group then travelled to Petra along the 5,000-year-old Kings Highway.

Entering Petra, "the rose city half as old as time" and a UNESCO heritage site, the group journeyed by carriage, donkey, camel or foot through the "Siq" on the Wadi Musa trail. Afterwards, the group toured Wadi Rum: in Jeeps, tracing Lawrence of Arabia's route and enjoying the magnificent lunar landscapes of pink sands and black mountains. They crossed the Arava border into Eilat, where they spent a relaxing Shabbat.

The group arrived in Jerusalem after stops at the ruins of Avdat and the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot. Visiting the new Yad Vashem yielded great emotions and the sense that there is never enough time to do justice to this unique memorial. That evening, the Jerusalem Music Centre held a concert with three talented Israeli musicians performing in their military uni-



Trip participants enjoy their excursion to Petra, "the rose city half as old as time," and a UNESCO heritage site.

forms. At this event, CICF announced a special gift donated by Ruth and Arnon Miller to the famous composer Tvi Avner in the memory of Hana Avni for prizes in Music Composition, in tribute and recognition of a woman of distinction in the arts and culture.

On the final day of the tour, the group explored the newly excavated Wall tunnels in the Old City, as well as the Burnt House, a reminder of the fire that destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple. They then visited the Jerusalem City Hall built by Zeev Vered and the Menachem Begin Heritage Centre. The day ended with a tour of Hebrew University and the spectacular views from Mount Scopus.

All in all, it was a cultural experience of a lifetime in Israel.

7th Chinese Auction February 25

The Soloway Jewish Community Centre and Torah Academy of Ottawa will be hosting their annual Chinese Buffet and Auction on Saturday night, February 25 at the SJCC.

The evening features a full Chinese buffet and more than 50 draws. The grand prize is airfare for two to Israel. Additional prizes include jewelry, a laptop computer, airfare for two to anywhere in the U.S. and Canada, Senators tickets, hotel stays and much more.

One of the best features of the auction are your chances of winning. In past years, an average of one out of every three participants walked away with a prize.

The only catch is you have to enter in

order to win. To see a full list of all the great prizes, pick up a prize booklet at the SJCC or find your last issue of the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin* where it was inserted.

A silent auction will feature many additional selected items. If you are unable to attend the evening, you can still participate in the draw by purchasing raffle tickets in advance using the order form on page 4 of the booklet.

Tickets for attending the event are \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door and entitle you to a \$5 raffle ticket. Tickets can be purchased at the SJCC or by calling Torah Academy (274-0110).



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Allegro
RESIDENCES

Retrace your roots during a klezmer, heritage cruise

By Diane Koven

It may very well be true that there is "nothing new under the sun," but a local family has definitely thought of a new twist to the typical vacation cruise idea.

Marc, AC and their son Josh ("Socalled") Dolgin invite you to imagine yourself floating down the Dnieper River while enjoying a series of klezmer concerts.

There's more to the proposed cruise than music: this will truly be a trip down memory lane. In fact, most of the memories may be memories of your very ancestors.

The klezmer/heritage cruise the Dolgins are planning for this spring will include seminars and lectures on Yiddish culture and language, dance, Jewish literature and history, as well as the politics and history of old

Russia and the new Ukraine.

The ship will make stops in Kiev, Odessa, Zaporozhe and the Crimea where tours will be arranged for both secular and Jewish heritage sites. For those with family ties to the area, arrangements will be made for side trips to find old towns and shtetls along the way.

The Dolgin family's own trip to Ukraine in October 2005 sparked the idea for the cruise, to enable others to have the same type of experience.

Musician son Josh ("Socalled"), who has become well known for his fusion of Hip Hop and traditional Jewish music, came up with the idea to add music to the mix. Already, several musicians and lecturers have been lined up, with more to come.

Klezmerim Michael Al-

bert, Susan Hoffman-Watts and Eric Stein will be entertaining passengers, as well as Michael Wex, author of the recently published *Born to Kveich*.

Marc Dolgin's father came to Canada from Khor-titsa at the age of 12 in 1914 and "spoke English without an accent." When Marc, AC and Josh began planning their "pilgrimage" back to their family roots, they didn't really expect much.

"We had my Dad's very sketchy recollections," said Marc, but what they found "was far more fun than we thought and we discovered far more than we thought."

Although the Dolgins had lived in Moscow when Marc was posted there with the Department of Foreign Affairs, they were unable to travel to the area his family had left because it was closed



Josh "Socalled" Dolgin places a stone on a grave in a long-forgotten cemetery.

to foreigners. When they decided to go there recently, things were extremely easy, including transportation arrangements.

Prior to the trip, Marc did some research and made con-

tact with a Chabad rabbi who lives in the area.

"Chabad has moved back into the former Soviet Union and rebuilt the Jewish community. I got in touch with them on the web ... and asked them to find us a guide," said Marc.

The rabbi kindly "lent" the family his assistant. He was very familiar with the area and helped them to find their way around.

"The rabbi arranged a meeting with the local city archivist. He had records, including synagogue records from the turn of the century. He had the birth and marriage records ... found our original name and a listing of my Dad's birth. That was something we did not expect," said Marc.

Something else they did not expect was the discovery of deserted Jewish cemetery. Marc read some of the research done by Mennonites who have been returning to the area for a number of years, and discovered a report about the Jewish cemetery.

"The Jewish community and the rabbi had not heard about it, but we gave the information to our driver and we found it," he said.

A website for the cruise, planned for May 3-15, 2007, can be found at www.magma.ca/klezmercruise.

It contains details about the itinerary and bios of the entertainers and tour leaders. Take a look, get out the family albums and start planning your own trip down memory lane.

JFS offers career guidance workshop for both teens and their parents

In order to assist students who are at the career crossroads, Arthur Karp, MEd, in partnership with Jewish Family Services, has designed a workshop and made available career coaching for teens aged 16-19, to assist them in assessing how to plan and choose their career track.

Parents will be offered a concurrent session, in which to consider their role in guiding their children on this journey.

The sessions take place at Jewish Family Services; 2255 Carling Avenue, Suite 301.

For further details, contact Helen (722-2225).



Judaic Outreach Programs

March - April 2006

Leah Smith, Judaic Program Supervisor • 266-0544

Alison Caplan, Judaic Administrative Assistant • 725-3519

Date	Program	Place	Time
Thursdays	Sing & Play Along Rena Herman	Fun for Everyone 842 Broadview	4:00 - 5:00
Wednesdays	Hebrew & Yiddish Conversation Rena Herman	Tamir Boardroom 11 Nadolny Sachs	5:30 - 6:15
Wednesdays	Joys of Judaism Level 1 Rena Herman / Leo Lighstone	Tamir Day Program 11 Nadolny Sachs	6:30 - 7:30
Wednesdays	Joys of Judaism Level 2 Cantor Benlolo	Tamir Boardroom 11 Nadolny Sachs	6:30 - 7:30
Thursdays	Tamir Choir Cantor Benlolo	Tamir Boardroom 11 Nadolny Sachs	6:00 - 7:00
Sunday March 5	Cooking & Noshing Alison Caplan & Barbara Greenberg	Hillel Lodge 10 Nadolny Sachs	2:00 - 3:30
Monday March 13	Megillah Reading/Purim Party Dress up in costumes	Beth Shalom downtown 151 Chapel Street	6:45 - 8:00
Sunday March 19	Purim with Rena Herman RSVP Alison Caplan	Rideau Regional Centre Smiths Falls	11:00 - 3:00
Friday March 24	Community Shabbat Dinner RSVP Alison Caplan by March 21	Tamir Boardroom 11 Nadolny Sachs	5:30 - 7:30
Sunday April 9	Passover / Pesach with Rena Herman RSVP Alison Caplan	Rideau Regional Centre Smiths Falls	11:00 - 3:00
Monday April 19	3rd Seder RSVP Alison Caplan by April 10	Beth Shalom downtown 151 Chapel Street	5:00 - 8:00

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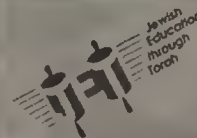
THURSDAY, JUNE 8

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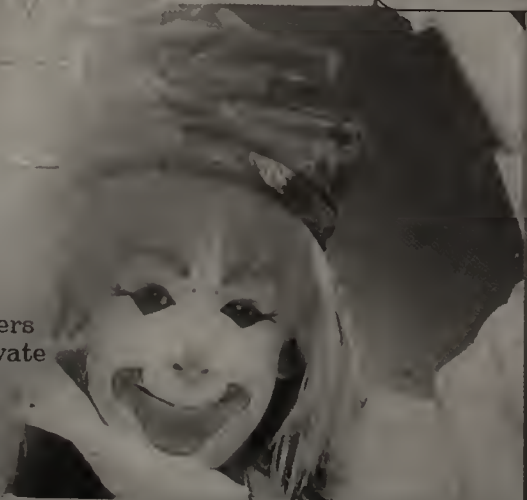


Sunday, March 12, 2:00–4:00pm

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REGISTRATION DATES

Monday, Jan. 30 - Friday, Feb. 10

Registration for Soloway JCC members presently enrolled (Registration begins at 8:00 am)

Monday, Feb. 13 - Monday, Feb. 20

Registration for non-members presently enrolled and for Soloway JCC members not currently enrolled (Registration begins at 8:00 am)

Monday, Feb. 20 - Open Registration

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Bonus package to Soloway JCC Members who register prior to March 3, 2006.

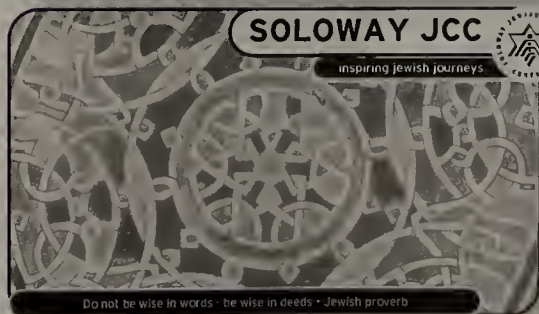
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The Soloway JCC Day Camp is looking for mature individuals who are interested in one of the following areas:

- Dance and Drama
- Arts and Crafts
- Sports

This person would be responsible for developing and implementing a Specialty Program for children ages 3-14. This full time position is for a seven week period starting July 3, 2006 and ending August 18, 2006.

All interested applicants please bring a resume to the Soloway JCC located at 21 Nadolny Sachs Private to the attention of Amy Siggner.

For more information please contact Amy Siggner at 798-9818 ext. 258 or asiggner@jccottawa.com

inspiring jewish journeys

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MARCH BREAK CAMP MARCH 13 - MARCH 17

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For more info contact Jon at 798 - 9818 ext 267

jbraun@jccottawa.com

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*Cost includes a Kosher for Passover lunch and snacks on the 17th and 18th only. Lunch will not be provided on the 21st.

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SOLOWAY JCC

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LECTURES PRESENTED BY INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED SCHOLARS

At Saint-Paul University, 223 Main Street

Dr. JOHN MERKELE (ST. JOHN UNIVERSITY)

AND DR. HAROLD KASIMOV (GRINNELL COLLEGE).

March 30: 7:00 - 9:00 P.M. March 31: 9:00 - 11:00 A.M.

What we might do together: Rabbi Heschel's perspective on Jewish-Christian relations and inter-religious dialogue

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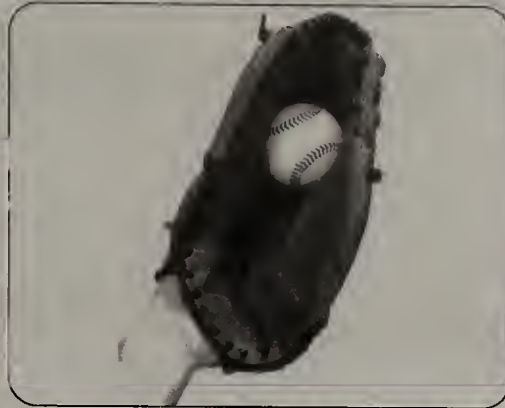


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For more information contact Head Coach Carlos Brown or
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The Soloway Jewish Community Centre Ganon Preschool is looking to hire a teacher for the 4 year old - Junior Kindergarten program. The candidate must have a diploma in Early Childhood Education or an equivalent. Knowledge of Judaica required. Start date is September 2006. Send your resume by February 28, 2006 to: jkwanlick@jccottawa.com or fax to Jennifer Kwavnick at 613.798.9838.

THE MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT OF THE SOLOWAY JCC

has an immediate opening for an organized, results-driven person as Membership Sales Representative. The position is part time, and you must be available to work evenings and Sunday afternoons. The candidate should have excellent communication and telephone skills and proven keyboarding and computer experience. Knowledge of the Ottawa Jewish community a definite asset. An ability to work professionally and independently a must.

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Workshop helps couples communicate

By Rabbi Ely Braun

Over 600,000 couples from around the world have participated in *Couple Communication Workshops*. The program was originally developed at the University of Minnesota Family Study Center.

Participants of the program have noticed improved communications and an increase in satisfaction in their relationship. This has been born out by over 70 major academic studies examining the efficacy of the program.

The program helps each participant gain an awareness of both their own and their partner's communication styles, as well as how it affects their interactions.

With the mastery of 11 specific talking and listening skills, communication improves.

By focusing on both attitudinal and behavioural aspects of conflict resolution and relationship building, the partici-

pants improve the quality of their relationship.

The program has also shown to improve parent-child communication, as well as to lead to more productive communication in the workplace.

Talking and Listening Together is the workbook for the Couple Communication I workshop scheduled for four Tuesday nights: March 7, 21, 28 and April 4 at the Soloway JCC.

A new feature of this program is the Skill Mats.

There are two mats, which can be described as "training wheels for communication." They are, however, much more.

The first mat reflects the Awareness Wheel which has been an integral part of this program from the early days.

This wheel is a map to help us become aware of what we experience at any point in time. It helps us focus on five zones: senso-

ry data (both verbal and nonverbal), thoughts at this moment, feeling, wants and actions.

This first mat helps us translate self-talk, an organizing of one's awareness, into sending a clear and complete message.

The second mat helps in the development of active listening. This is done through a Listening Cycle which includes attending, acknowledging, inviting more information, summarizing and asking.

The program is available in two formats. In a group, presented in four two-hour sessions, or conjointly one couple privately with an instructor for six, 55-minute sessions.

For registration in the SJCC program, contact Roslyn Wollock (798-9818, ext. 254).

For a conjoint program, please contact me (721-7629 or embraun@gishurcenter.org).



Rabbi Ely Braun runs the Gishur Center in Ottawa

OTI sponsors public lecture on medical ethics

By Aaron Sarna

The second annual Adina Ben-Porat Memorial Lecture on Medical Ethics, sponsored by the Ottawa Torah Institute Yeshiva High School and the Machon Sarah High School for Girls, takes place on Wednesday, February 22, 8:00 pm at the Soloway JCC.

The lecture is entitled: "Who is in Charge of My Body? A Medical and Jewish Ethical Perspective on Experimental Therapies."

The featured speakers are Rabbi Eliezer Ben-Porat, the dean of the Ottawa Torah Institute and Machon Sarah High School, and Dr. Raphael Saginur, chair of the

research ethics board of the Ottawa Hospital.

Rabbi Ben-Porat is a noted teacher and scholar on Judaic Law and Dr. Saginur is a renowned physician in the field of infectious diseases. The lecture will appeal to the religious, medical, legal, academic and educational communi-

ties concerned with ethical dilemmas in the health care field.

Dr. Saginur and Rabbi Ben-Porat will discuss the regulation of research involving human subjects and address consent as a particular issue.

Dr. Saginur notes that research ethics in the medical field grew

out of the Holocaust and the realization there had to be some control over human experimentation.

Tickets for this event are \$25 for adults and \$15 for students and seniors (age 60 and over). To purchase tickets, contact the Ottawa Torah Institute (244-3939 or 737-5006, e-mail oti@magma.ca).

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JEWISH CONTINUITY

Massacre in Munich and a lost world

These books deal with Jewish loss – one with the loss of part of an Israeli Olympic team in the 1970s, the other with the loss of a Jewish world snuffed out by the Nazis.

Striking Back: The 1972 Munich Olympic Massacre and Israel's Deadly Response

By Aaron J. Klein

(translated from the Hebrew by Mitch Ginsburg)
Random House
Hardcover, 2005

Most people are familiar with the massacre at the 1972 Munich Olympics, especially now since Spielberg's movie – based on George Jonas' book, *Vengeance* – has hit the screens. Having not read Jonas' book nor seen Spielberg's movie yet, I can't comment on their interpretations, just on the criticisms levied (which include being "soft" on terrorism and "hard" on vengeance).

However, I have read Klein's book, which reads like a Tom Clancy or Ken Follett spy thriller. But, unlike Spielberg, who never interviewed any Mossad agents involved in the reprisals, Klein did his homework.

Klein is a military/security/intelligence affairs correspondent and analyst and has worked for the Israeli papers *Hadashot* and *Al-Hamishmar*. He now writes for *Time*. Klein has been a CNN consultant and currently teaches at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and is a captain in the IDF's Intelligence.

For this book, he had access to and interviewed over 50 Mossad, Military Intelligence and Shabak (Israel's Security Service) agents, former combatants and senior analysts, even former Mossad heads. He also interviewed high-ranking Palestinian officials. And, like all good reporters, he tried to verify, wherever he could, the facts disclosed in interviews, perusing internal and top-secret government documents (the 15-page top secret Koppel Report, released in 2005, for example), to solidify his information. The result is a book that makes no apology for the actions of the Israelis, yet tries to present their motivation, which was ultimately to deter Palestinian terrorism in Europe.

Striking Back begins in 1992 with the assassination in Paris of Atef Bseiso, linked to the Munich massacres 20 years earlier. It then goes back to 1972, dubbed the "year of terrorism," and recounts the horrible events that led up to the murder of 11 Israeli athletes taken hostage by the Palestinian terrorist group, Black September.

The terrible lack of security at the Olympic Village in Munich and Israeli complacency begot the tragedy, as Klein's book illustrates. But the Germans were also to blame for not wanting to work co-operatively with the Israelis (they refused to allow any Israeli intervention once the hostage-taking was under way), for their bungled attempt to save the hostages from extermination and for sending inexperienced marksmen to do a sniper's job.

Klein's account of the hostage-taking is gripping enough reading, but the book doesn't just focus on that terrible episode in Israel's counterterrorism history. It reveals a much larger "program" authored by the Palestinians to strike terror across Europe, thereby raising the profile of the Palestinian people and their desire for a homeland.

Countless operations are described – those of Mossad, and those of Fatah and other Palestinian terrorist groups – covering a 20-year span. While Klein does not condone all of the actions of the Israeli's in targeted assassinations, and while he shows how, at times, the definition of culpability was stretched, he also explains how deeply the massacre in Munich affected the Israeli psyche and how the Talmudic command to "rise and slay the one who comes to kill you" became a new and lasting mantra.

Despite being somewhat confusing occasionally (Klein goes back and forth in time in his narrative), this is an



The Book Beat

Kinneret Globerman

important book in understanding Palestinian terrorism and Israeli counterterrorism.

The World That Was: Poland

By Rabbi Yitzchak Kasnett

The Living Memorial/Mesorah Publications
Softcover, 1999


The Hebrew Academy of Cleveland spearheaded a project called "The Living Memorial" in the mid 1990s, dedicated to producing a Torah-based curriculum that paid tribute to the Shoah. To date, the project has produced three textbooks (this being one; the other two focusing on the world of Lithuanian, Hungarian and Romanian Jewry) among its other activities. Through personal interviews, maps and numerous black and white pictures, Rabbi Kasnett reconstructs the vibrant Torah-rich world of Eastern Europe.

More than three million Jews called Poland home prior to the Second World War. It was the largest of Europe's Jewish communities, excluding Russia's. This textbook (much more visual than most) chronicles the spiritual climate in Poland between the First and Second World Wars, and political and economic developments there.

It talks about life in Lodz, its Jewish industry, the economic difficulties Jews had due to discriminatory laws. It also uses Warsaw as a microcosm of Polish Jewry. The struggles in the ghetto – physical, spiritual, economical – and the denigrating and humiliating rules enforced on the Jews are described.

The historical narratives are followed by personal reminiscences by survivors, bringing the past to life.

The plentitude of pictures and its non-textbook writing style make *Poland* accessible to readers interested in this lost world, and the inclusion of teacher's guides, lessons, worksheets and homework assignments facilitates its use for Jewish day and afternoon schools and high schools.



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Volunteer Opportunities

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES

These people really need your help.

- The following Alta Vista Seniors really need your help.
 - 1) Engaging and sociable senior is interested in walks, movies, visits to the library or malls. Can you fit this into your schedule every now and then?
 - 2) Senior would love the help of a patient, compassionate person who could take her grocery shopping to Loblaw's on Baseline once a month.
 - 3) An active senior would like to attend a four-hour program on Tuesdays, but needs a ride and someone to remain with him.

• Show them we really care! Seniors in our community are languishing in long-term care facilities without visitors. Can you share a few hours a month with them?

• Replacement drivers required for the next couple of months. Kosher Meals on Wheels drivers need to be replaced. Please call to find out how you can help.

• Do you speak Slovak? A very special request for a senior who lives in Aylmer. She would love to be able to chat with someone in her own language. Enjoys art. Mobility is a problem, so a home visit would be preferable.

• Russian couple (who speak English as well) need help with grocery shopping once a month. Location off St. Laurent Blvd.

• URGENT need for winter drivers. Are you a driver? Have you been thinking about volunteering this winter? Help a senior get to a medical appointment when family or other means of transportation is unavailable. Help us to help them.

Bev Grostern at 722-2325, #304
would love to hear from you!

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• Attention High School students... A great place to visit and learn ... while gaining valuable experience and volunteer hours for community service requirement. Help out with recreation programs, entertainment and special holiday events on Sunday afternoons, Shul Services or Monday night Bingo. Please call for a registration and orientation appointment.

• We have a gentlemen in need of company on a regular basis... If you have some time to make a new friend ... please call today.

• Reception & Administrative Help – spend a few hours weekdays assisting with clerical and reception duties

• Entertainers – got a talent? Performers are welcome to apply and be enjoyed by all!

A little time ... goes a long way at the Lodge!
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Please call Cheryl Cogan,
Co-ordinator of Volunteers

at 728-3900 ext. 191. Or email ccogan@hillel-ltc.com
Students welcome (please note: children under the age of 14 require adult accompaniment)

Minutes from the meeting maven

Over the years, I have had the opportunity to attend a lot of meetings: management meetings, committee meetings, staff meetings, planning meetings, consultations, retreats, team building and ad hoc meetings.

This has given me the chance to take down some observations I would like to share with you.

If you are called to a meeting, take the seat at the end of the table opposite the Chair. This will automatically give you a certain importance. If the Chair is a democratic type and does not like to sit at the end of the table, or if the table is round, then sit next to the Chair. Again, everyone will have to pay attention to you when you speak and you will automatically gain in status.

Make sure you insert sentences showing how everyone agrees with your way of doing things, even if your original ideas or thoughts are rejected. Just make sure you wait long enough, summarize what everyone agrees on and quickly show how that is what you meant all along. Everyone will want to be your friend.

Make sure you use current "meeting English." Being proactive used to be good, but it is now getting so yesterday. Now you have to get ahead of the curve. This means you are in a race with a curve and you have to turn before it does. Remember, this is only metaphorical. I tried to do this in my car and ended up driving into a ditch.

When getting ahead of the curve, it is important not to get ahead of yourself. If you get ahead of yourself, even if you are ahead of the curve, people will frown and your thoughts will be misunderstood.

Once you master the art of getting ahead of the curve without getting ahead of yourself, you have to get behind the manager's ideas. This is really important because, even if you are ahead of the curve and not ahead of yourself, the manager has to be ahead of everybody else.

You should no longer speak of re-engineering as this now has bad connotations. Everybody knows it means somebody in the room will be fired.

Reinvigorating can be OK, but be careful of when you use it because it implies something is currently not very vigorous. If you suggest reinvigorating too soon, this may

put you ahead of yourself instead of ahead of the curve. You can then end up not behind the manager's ideas, but behind the eight ball, which, as snooker players know, is not good.

You could try to think outside the box. Just make sure you know where the box is and how big it is. Also, if you have to think outside the box, there is an implication that you have previously been thinking inside it. Why are you in that box?

At this point, it may be useful to suggest a conceptual framework. Once people get far enough away from the box, you can be sure they will be looking for one. We meeting experts know that this is just a bigger box, but we generally hide this from others.

I organize my things in boxes, files, notebooks, some kind of container. Come to think of it, I like thinking in boxes. In fact, without the boxes, thoughts are just a free flowing mess. So you can't really think systematic thoughts outside the box. But you might want to say it anyway to create the right impression.

Professional painters we ain't

We have done something bold and shocking. We've gone where no OJB subscriber has gone before ... we painted. All our lives, we avoided physical labour (more so Paul) and exercise (more so Byron).

As we recount one of our most traumatic experiences, we have colds and are heating up chicken soup.

Our friend, a local news personality, let's call her Mindy, asked Paul if he could help paint her apartment. She must have been highly medicated. Paul only recently learned to make his own bed.

Paul considered it to be a very bold experiment to see if he could actually do it. Byron stupidly agreed to come along (a succah probably fell on his head as a baby), and the two Jewish fellers went into the unknown.

First needing to learn the trade, we went to Home Depot which is not our kind of place. We like Costco. If you ever want to have an event and not pay for catering, have it there. The ceremony would be under an "assemble yourself" chuppah, free samples as hors d'oeuvres and open a 50-pack case of Manishevitz.

We saw people at Home Depot buying all sorts of odd objects. We enquired and they responded, "It's called a hammer." There was even a mohel section. Weddings and brisses - a two-for-one deal.

A staff member thankfully agreed to explain to us how to paint. She gave up on us and donated her number, in case of a serious disaster.

On our way into the apartment, people believed we were legit and made the usual comments tradesmen hear: "How 'bout those Sens!" "Cold weather ain't it!"

We brought music and a plate of honey cake that Byron's mother Carol had made. Only we bring honey cake to paint.

Paul wore a special blue painting outfit to avoid getting his clothes dirty. Byron wore one of his many Camp Kadimah t-shirts.

They showed us the rooms to paint and Paul nearly fainted. What were we thinking? In our studious Jewish education years we learned The Ten Plagues from Blood, Frogs ... to Darkness and Slaying of the First Born. The 11th plague would have been painting! Our ancestors were thankfully spared from the 10th plague by spreading lamb's blood on their front doors. At least they didn't have to paint it.

We put up painter's tape, moved furniture, tried the paint rollers and began laughing. We were clueless.

Suddenly Paul dropped a wet brush. Everything went into slow motion. Paint went all over the beautiful wooden floors. We hadn't yet discovered the art of placing *Nepean This Week* back-copies on the floor.

Byron completely freaked out. We started laughing. Mindy



Humour me, please

Rubin Friedman

What is most important is not to box yourself in. The meeting participants may disagree with you, in which case you have to show that what you really meant was what they intended.

Some people save up snappy or literary quotes to use as their final intervention in a meeting, but this can be risky as others might not get it or find it pretentious.

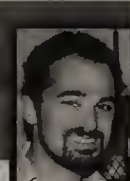
I hope this brief guide will be of use to all those who go to meetings and allow them to swim easily through the sea of troubles that await them.

Above all, let us not, to the meeting of true minds, admit impediments.



Have a Knish

Paul Telner



Byron Pascoe

asked if everything was OK. We replied that all was kosher. Knowing there would be more accidents, we had to be more stealthy. Like Eliyahu when he walks into your home for some wine, you have to be discrete! We decided that "Eliyahu" would be our code word for next time.

We started to get hungry, but there was "peanuts" to eat. LITERALLY, peanuts to eat!

As Byron took the tape down from the ceiling, Paul accidentally knocked him on the head with the flashlight and he passed out. Paul thought he was doing some form of Kabbalah.

The next room was bigger, and required glazing. Would we need to prime it? What's glazing?

Getting to work, Paul cut his finger on the ceiling. Saving Private Telner.

Every time there was a problem (not uncommon), Mindy would walk in on queue. Paul said, "Byron, I think we messed up the whole room." Suddenly Mindy would appear and enquire, "You messed up what?" It was a sitcom.

Spending so much time together, we got restless. We put on some Enya music to calm our nerves. It worked!

There should be a Jewish hotline for talking people through a perplexing event such as this.

We got lazy and tired, but the room was pretty much done. Paul was getting sick and Byron had to get to a squash game at the SJCC. No one believed Byron, but Paul took his side to get to sleep sooner.

We ended the night with some cake and we can't help but comment on the way walls are painted anywhere we go.

Required to return to glaze, we're going to flee the city, possibly to Merriekville. If you need painters, you know where to find us.

Have a knish!

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Continued on page 28

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Birthday wishes to:

Sam Krane on his special birthday by Clair and Julius Krantzberg; by Gerry and Morrie Krantzberg; by Anne Froimovitch; and by Julia Krane, Dan Paul and Jacob Krane-Paul.

In observance of the Yahrzeit of:

Shirley Rose, a beloved mother by Mavis and Simon Wasserberger.

In memory of:

Jack Shore's father by Julia Krane, Dan Paul and Jacob Krane-Paul.

Anniversary wishes to:

Stella and Norman Back on their 60th wedding anniversary by Evelyn Krane.

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Mazel Tov to:

Evelyn and Joseph Lieff on their granddaughter Abigail's Bat Mitzvah by Simmy Gardner.

R'huah Sh'lemah to:

Ricki Baker by Evelyn and Joseph Lieff.

Birthday wishes to:

Marjorie Achbar by Evelyn and Joseph Lieff.

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Irving Feldman by Sheldon Taylor and family.

Lyall Rankin by Steve and Sue Rothman.

Speedy recovery to:

Rosie Parnass by Steve and Sue Rothman and family and Sheldon and Corinne Taylor and family.

Continued on page 29

Ron and Ruth Levitan Incentive Fund

Have you thought about opening an endowment fund lately?

There is no better time than the present to open an endowment fund with the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation. With your contribution of a minimum of \$1,000, you can open an endowment fund, which will start your journey of leaving a Legacy in perpetuity to your community.

Because of a generous donation of \$50,000 made by Ron and Ruth Levitan, the Ron and Ruth Levitan Incentive Fund was established to give 50 new funds the opportunity to be

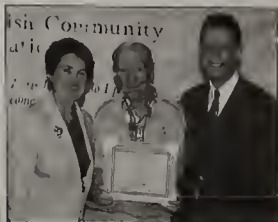


Melvin Kostove Memorial Fund

matched with an additional \$1,000 to help their fund grow. Less than 5 matching grant opportunities remain.

To double your money, call us today (798-4696 ext. 252) to inquire how you can open an endowment fund with the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation, and help us to build a strong and vibrant Ottawa Jewish community today and for generations to come.

You can also visit us at www.jewishottawa.com/ojef to learn more about the OJCF and/or make a donation online.



George Lesh Miracle Fund

In Appreciation

We wish to express our deepest appreciation to all our friends and members of the Ottawa Jewish community for the charitable donations and kind expressions of sympathy and support during the recent loss of our beloved wife, mother, bubbly and sister, Lillian. Your thoughtfulness and generosity were very much appreciated during a difficult time. Please accept this as a personal thank you. **The family of Lillian Kimmel z'l.**

In Appreciation

The family of the late Nat Wasserman would like to thank all our friends and family for their incredible outpouring of love and support during this most difficult time. Your thoughtfulness and generosity are very much appreciated.

Richard and Rhonda Wasserman and family

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Mindel Schecter, a dear mother by Ann Schecter.
Jack Schecter, a dear brother by Ann Schecter.

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In observance of the Yahrzeit of:
Mary Shaffer, a dear mother by Sheldon and Sonia Shaffer.

HAROLD SHAFFER MEMORIAL FUND

Birthday wishes to:
Ingnd Shapiro by Aunt Frances Shaffer and Dorothy; and by Rhea Wohl.
Sam Krane by Rhea Wohl.

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In appreciation to:
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Mazel Tov to:
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Speedy recovery to:
Ricki Baker by Millie Weinstein.

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Judith and David Kalin on the birth of their twin grandchildren by Rick and Helen Zipes.

In appreciation to:
Bernie Rosenblatt by Helen Zipes.

THE SAUL AND EDNA GOLDFARB

B'NAI MITZVAH PROGRAM

LEAH KOVACS SCHWEITZER

B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

Many thanks to:
Bob Dale and Elaine Friedberg by Kathi Kovacs and Irwin Schweitzer.

Contributions may be made online at www.jewishottawa.com/ojcf or by phoning Bev Glube at 798-4696 extension 274, Monday to Friday. We have voice mail. Our e-mail address is bglube@jewishottawa.com. Attractive cards are sent to convey the appropriate sentiments. All donations are acknowledged with an official receipt for income tax purposes. We accept Visa and MasterCard.

New!

A complete listing of the endowment funds established with the OJCF can be viewed online at www.jewishottawa.org. Plus, a link has been added to the online donation form, which allows you to search through our endowment listing and return back to the donation form to complete your transaction.

RSS feeds quickest way to get news and views of the Middle East

As I mentioned in my last column, I've recently been experimenting by adding RSS feeds to my customized My Yahoo! pages.

RSS (Really Simple Syndication) is a handy information management tool for keeping up with Internet coverage in the easiest way possible.

When you use an RSS reader (or a website or up-to-date browser that has embedded RSS capacities), continuous updates are available on any topic that you select. These display headlines and short summaries of the latest information.

For an introduction to this handy system and how to get started with it, read what Walt Mossberg, the computer guru at the *Wall Street Journal*, says about RSS at <http://ptech.wsj.com/archive/ptech-20050505.html>.

Besides a number of general pages that reflect my personal choices for news, finance and investment, general information, entertainment and special interests, I created a few pages that enable me to quickly follow developments related to my Global Shtetl column and RSS feeds to keep me current on Israel and Middle East news.

I was tweaking the Israel and Middle East pages when we were hit, successively, by Ariel Sharon's stroke and the Hamas victory in the so-called Palestinian "democracy."

I found RSS was key for following such fast-breaking news. With RSS, I could scan the stories from a variety of sources, read the summaries in 15 minutes or so and quickly choose what I wanted to click to get fuller reports.

As I mentioned in my previous column, an RSS feed is loaded into your selected RSS reader according to instruc-



Global Shtetl The Jewish Internet

Saul Silverman

tions from that reader. So website addresses are not normally required. (Yahoo! for example, has an embedded special search engine to find and add feeds on selected topics or from specific sources.)

What follows gives you an idea of the sources I've been using to view Israeli news using RSS.

My Israel/Middle East feeds

I put the Yahoo Full Coverage feed at the head of my page. This has about 10 topics and they change daily. Most days, there is a heading for Israeli news (misleadingly called "Middle East Conflict") and other headings for Iran and Iraq. Click on a heading to get a well-organized page of news coverage, analysis, opinion pieces and editorials, as well as audio, video and background websites. Looking at this alone will often provide everything you need.

Next, I've selected RSS feeds from leading Israeli news sources to get an overview of what Israelis are reading and discussing. The RSS feeds from *Ha'aretz* and *Jerusalem Post* are available, and save me time, since I try to read them daily and would otherwise browse the papers' websites.

Some sources, like the English edition of *Yediot Acharonot* (Y-News) or the business/economics daily *Globes* do not yet seem to have general RSS feeds. Another favourite, *Debkafile*, is available in RSS, but only mixed up with other material on an erratic intelligence/security/conspiracy-theory blog.

In this case, it's not worth the annoyance or distraction of the surrounding junk. I prefer to give RSS a pass and simply check my bookmarked *Debkafile* a few times a week.

My other Israeli feeds, scanned every day for a minute or so, but less frequently accessed for full stories, are Israel Net Daily and the comments in *Israpundit* blog.

My final choices are search-engine selections and international media.

I have RSS feeds on Israel from three key search engines – Google News, Yahoo News and Topix. Google usually includes a few top stories from *Yediot Acharonot*. (While Y-Net doesn't have a general RSS feed yet, its stories get picked up by the Google News search engine which does.) Also, these search feeds provide a bird's-eye view of coverage and opinion on Israel and the Middle East in Canadian, American and global media.

My page concludes with the general Middle East news sections of key international news sources – the AP, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *International Herald Tribune* and the BBC.

As noted above, I can scan current stories in 15 minutes or so. What a time-saver!

I'm still tweaking my pages, but my experience tells me that using RSS is essential for anyone who uses the web regularly to follow Israel or any other topic.

Powerful pancakes guaranteed to wake up sleeping teenagers

Upon hearing that I write a food column, most people assume that I cook fabulous meals for my family each night.

My children will tell you that nothing could be further from the truth. At least once a week, store-bought hummus, tzatziki and toasted pita pass for dinner at our house. The first time I served this, husband Roger said, "That was a delicious appetizer. What are we having for the main course?"

He doesn't make that mistake anymore.

It's not the cooking that's the hard part. The challenge is figuring out what to make that everyone will eat. My three children include one vegetarian, one who will not eat any vegetables and one who is on a wheat and dairy free diet.

Most nights, I feel like a short order cook. Every so often, I just throw in the towel and make pancakes. Even then, I still have to make a second type of pancakes with rice flour and soymilk for my youngest. At least it's fast.

The first recipe is from Marion Cunningham's *The Breakfast Book*. She calls them "Plain Pancakes," but, trust me, they are anything but plain. After you try these, you will never make pancakes from a mix again.

I like them with peaches, my oldest likes them with blueberries and my daughter likes them with chocolate chips. To avoid any arguments, I make the batter plain and then sprinkle 2 tablespoons of the chosen ingredient on the top of each pancake after the pancake has cooked to the point where the bubbles are breaking on the top.

The second recipe is for German Apple Pancakes. These are pancakes that are baked in extra-large muffin tins in the oven. They puff up as they bake and make a beautiful presentation. I made these very early one Sunday morning and discovered that they are very powerful. The aroma of the apples being caramelized in butter, brown sugar and cinnamon actually woke three sleeping teenagers before 9:00 am.

Marion Cunningham's Pancakes

Makes 2 dozen 4-inch pancakes

This recipe comes from Marion Cunningham's *The Breakfast Book* (Alfred A Knopf 1987). Sadly, this little gem of a book is no longer in print. These taste best right out of the pan.

2 eggs
5 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted and slightly cooled
1 cup milk (whatever you have on hand)
1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
1 tablespoon sugar
4 teaspoons baking powder
3/4 teaspoon salt

Butter for cooking pancakes

In a medium mixing bowl, beat eggs until they are thoroughly blended. Whisk in slightly cooled melted butter and milk.

In a second bowl, mix together flour, sugar, baking powder and salt. Pour egg mixture into flour mixture and stir only until the dry ingredients are well moistened. Don't overmix.

Heat a 12-inch skillet over medium heat. Lightly film bottom of pan with butter. Drop 2 or 3 tablespoons of batter for each pancake into pan. A 12-inch pan will hold about 4 pancakes at a time. Cook over medium heat until bubbles break on the surface. Flip pancakes and cook for another 30 seconds, until second side is lightly browned. Repeat with remaining batter.



Made with Love

Cindy Feingold

German Apple Pancakes

Serves 3 (recipe can be easily doubled)

This recipe comes from *marthastewart.com*. If you make it in jumbo muffin tins your yield will be 6. In a regular muffin tin, you will probably get about 9 or 10 German Apple Pancakes. I baked them in the new flexible muffin tins and had very good results. If you do use the flexible muffin tin, make sure you place it on a baking sheet for stability. The pancakes flip out of the pan very easily and cleaning the little bits of caramelized sugar stuck to the pan is no problem. Consider these little bits of caramel the cook's treat, but, be careful, they stick to fillings.

2 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
1/4 cup granulated sugar

2 large granny smith apples, peeled, cored and diced into 1/2 inch chunks
1/4 cup light brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 tablespoon freshly squeezed lemon juice
2 tablespoons unsalted butter

2/3 cup all purpose flour
5 tablespoons granulated sugar
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons melted butter
3 eggs
3/4 cup milk (2% or homogenized)

Preheat oven to 450 degrees F. Brush melted butter inside each muffin cup. Coat inside of each muffin cup with granulated sugar. Tilt muffin pan so sides get well coated and dump out any excess that does not stick to the butter.

Mix diced apples with brown sugar, cinnamon and lemon juice. Melt butter in a large frying pan over medium heat. Add apple mixture and sauté, turning occasionally, for about 10 minutes, until apples are caramelized. Let cool for about 5 minutes then divide apples evenly among the muffin cups.

Place flour, sugar, salt, melted butter, eggs and milk in bowl of a food processor. Process for 3 minutes. Transfer liquid mixture to a measuring cup with a spout and pour batter over the apples, filling each cup about 3/4 full. Bake 15 minutes. They will puff up during the last 5 minutes of baking.

Remove from oven and turn muffin tin over onto a rectangular serving dish. They are wonderful with maple syrup or whipped cream or just dusted with icing sugar.

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Making miracles happen

Sometimes, when our prayers are answered, we see the hand or shadow of God and proclaim a miracle. That, indeed, might be the case. But the following picture books remind us there is often a human dimension to miracles.

Shadow Play
A True Story of Tefillah
By Leah Pearl Shollar
Illustrated by Pesach Gerber
Hachai Publishing 2006
Unpaged Ages 4 - 7

Whether all stories from talmudic and/or mishnaic lore and Baal Shem Tov's commentaries are factually true or not is not for me to say. But that mental nudge does not detract one whit from the emotional power, beauty and inspiration of *Shadow Play*.

Like "Making It Rain," one of the stories I mentioned in my September 26, 2005 review of Phillis Gershtator's book, *Wise ... and Not So Wise: Ten Tales from the Rabbis*, *Shadow Play* is a well written and illustrated retelling of the story of the famed tzadik Abba Chilkiya and his wife.

The story is set in drought stricken Eretz Israel sometime between the 1st and 2nd centuries CE. Ploni and Almoni are sent by the head of the Sanhedrin to ask Abba Chilkiya to pray for rain because "Hashem always listens to his tefillos (prayers)."

When the messengers arrive at Abba Chilkiya's house, they see his wife giving bread to a boy. Before she sends them on to where her husband is working, she gives them water.

When Ploni and Almoni reach Abba Chilkiya, he doesn't respond to their greetings. "He has his reasons," Ploni says. Ploni continues to say it as they follow Abba bome at the end of the work day, copying the seemingly strange, sometimes painful, things he is doing.

When they reach Abba Chilkiya's home, he asks them to wait outside. As the sky darkens, they see Abba Chilkiya and his wife up on the roof gesturing and praying. Almost immediately, a cloud appears above Abba Chilkiya's wife. It begins to rain.

Only then are Ploni and Almoni invited inside. They question Abba Chilkiya about his strange behaviour, discover why his wife's prayers for rain were answered first, and learn the shadowy secret of having prayers answered.

Told in a more orthodox style than the version in Gershtator's compilation, *Shadow Play* is, none the less, an



From *In God's Hands*

endearing universal take on Jewish values in general and kindness to others in particular.

In God's Hands
By Lawrence Kushner and Gary Schmidt
Illustrated by Matthew J. Bask
Jewish Lights Publishing 2005
Unpaged Ages 4 - 8

In God's Hands is yet another beautifully written, lavishly illustrated, gently humorous retelling of a classic Jewish wisdom story. I reviewed an earlier version that was updated and set in Toronto, *Bagels for Benny*, by Aubrey Davis in February 2004. Yet each retelling adds a little something.

In keeping with the time-

Kid Lit



Deanna Silverman

lessness and universality of the story, there are not many clues as to when or where this retelling occurs. Rather it is set in a little town that's "the sort of place where miracles could happen."

While not a shtetl as ordinarily illustrated, it is a community in which rich and poor alike attend morning prayers. Jacob, the rich man, usually sleeps through them while David, the poor synagogue caretaker, constantly worries about feeding his family.

One morning, Jacob wakes up just long enough to hear a bit of the Torah reading. Later, he's convinced he was ordered to bake 12 loaves of challah for God. Puzzled but obedient, Jacob follows orders. He takes the challahs to the synagogue and puts them inside the ark.

After Jacob leaves, David comes to clean the synagogue and to ask for God's help in feeding his family. No sooner are the words out of David's mouth than he opens the ark and finds the 12 challahs. A miracle! And, thank God, the miracle continues week after week after week.

Years later, the rabbi happens to see what is going on. Bringing Jacob and David together, the rabbi gently reminds them that God doesn't eat or bake challahs. That is what man does. But man does it with the help of God. Man's hands are God's hands, especially when people help each other.

A memorable story of giving and receiving, *In God's Hands* delights as it exemplifies the beauty as well as the value of kindness to one another.

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WHAT'S GOING ON February 20 to March 12, 2006

For a detailed listing
visit www.jewishottawa.org



**TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 21**
Jewish Family Services, presents a four session discussion of matters related to dealing with the elderly, Beth Shalom West, 15 Chartwell Avenue, 7:30 pm.

Malca Pass Library Book Discussion Group, "The Secret Mitzvah of Lucio Burke" by Steven Hayward, Reviewer: Linda Rossman, Agudath Israel Congregation, 1400 Coldrey Avenue, 7:30 pm.



CANDLELIGHTING BEFORE

Feb 24 ♦ 5:25 pm
Mar 3 ♦ 5:35 pm
Mar 10 ♦ 5:44 pm

**WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 22**
Ottawa Torah Institute and Machon Sarah High School presents The Adina Ben-Porat Memorial Lecture "Who is In Charge of My Body?", 8:00 pm.
Mother and Daughter Israeli Dancing (Women Only), Congregation Machzikei Hadas, 2310 Virginia Drive, 7:00 pm.

**FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 25**
Temple Israel Shabbaton with Rabbi David Ingber, scholar-in-residence Elat Chayyim, 1301 Prince of Wales. Info: 224-1802.

**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 25**
Torah Academy and SJCC Annual Chinese Auction, 8:00 pm.
Jewish Singles Social 35+, Merivale Bowling Lanes, \$3.50 game, \$1.50 shoe rental, 8:00pm.
SJCC Purim 798-9818, ext. 254.

**SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 26**
Adult Department of the SJCC, Scrabble Sundays, 10:00 am.
Tu B'Shevat Planting and Flower Pot Painting, Youth Art Show display, Congregation Beth Shalom, 151 Chapel Street, 2:00 - 4:00 pm.
Emanah Women, Dinner and screening of the acclaimed film Ushpizin, Tom Brown Arena Hall, 341 Bayview Road, 7:00 - 9:30 pm.

**MONDAY
FEBRUARY 27**
JET, Lawyers Lunch and Learn, "Malpractice in Jewish Law," Gowing, 160 Egin Street, 26th floor, noon.

**TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 28**
Jewish Family Services presents part 2 of a four session discussion of matters related to

dealing with the elderly, Beth Shalom West, 15 Chartwell Avenue, 7:30 pm.

**WEDNESDAY
MARCH 1**
Mother and Daughter Israeli Dancing (Women Only), Congregation Machzikei Hadas, 2310 Virginia Drive, 7:00 pm.

**SATURDAY
MARCH 4**
YAD Bash 2006, Biagio's, 1394 Richmond Road, 8:00 pm.

**SUNDAY
MARCH 5**
Machon Sarah High School, "Conquer the Darkness," Congregation Machzikei Hadas, 2310 Virginia Drive, 7:00 pm.

**TUESDAY
MARCH 7**
Couple Communication Workshop 1, with Rabbi Ely Braun, 7:00 pm.

**WEDNESDAY
MARCH 8**
Hillel Academy 2006/07 Open House Junior and all-day kindergarten program drop in, 31 Nadolny Sachs Private, 9:30-3:30. Info: 722-0020.
Mother and Daughter Israeli

Dancing (Women Only), Congregation Machzikei Hadas, 2310 Virginia Drive, 7:00 pm.

**SUNDAY
MARCH 12**
SJCC/JET Purim Family Celebration, 2:00 pm.

COMING SOON

MONDAY, MARCH 13
OTC, A Big Fat Greek Purim, Embassy West Hotel.
Cost: \$18 adults, \$10 children. RSVP: 823-0866.
JETSSETTERS Purim Bash, location to be announced.
Info: JET (798-9818 ext. 247).
MONDAY, MARCH 27
Jewish Unity Live, Info: JET (798-9818 ext. 247).
APRIL 26 - MAY 7
Adult Leadership Mission to Israel
Info: Jack Silverstein (798-4696, ext. 245).

Unless otherwise noted, activities take place at The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private.

This information is taken from the community calendar maintained by the Jewish Community Campus of Ottawa Inc. Organizations which would like their events to be listed, no matter where they are to be held, should make sure they are recorded by Brenda Schafer, calendar coordinator at 798-9818 ext. 265. We have voice mail. Accurate details must be provided and all events must be open to the Jewish public. You may fax to 798-9839 or email to bschafer@jccottawa.com.

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Condolences

Condolences are extended
to the families of:

Jack Barrett
Audrey Freiman
Herman Halpern
Mary Potechin
Issie Werk

Moy their memory be a blessing always.

The CONDOLENCE COLUMN
is offered as a
public service to the community.

There is no charge.

For a listing in this column,
please call Bev Glube,
798-4696, ext. 274.

Voice mail is available.

BULLETIN DEADLINES 2006

FEBRUARY 22 FOR MARCH 13
MARCH 8 FOR MARCH 27
MARCH 22 FOR APRIL 10
APRIL 5 FOR APRIL 24
APRIL 18 FOR MAY 8
MAY 3 FOR MAY 22
MAY 31 FOR JUNE 19
JULY 5 FOR JULY 24
AUGUST 2 FOR AUGUST 21

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